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THE ITHACAN

ITHACA, N.Y.
VOLUME 75, ISSUE 27



Students stray from childhood religion and look

to find a new faith



BY ALLISON MUSANTE
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore Brian Stewart calls himself a spiritual seeker who values the journey more than the destination. His journey to find faith has led him to seven religions in his life.

Stewart, who was raised a Lutheran, draws spiritual inspiration from Mormonism, Judaism, Buddhism and Catholicism. Stewart has also explored the Seventh Day Adventist Church and Jehovah's Witnesses, but he said he does not belong to one group over another.

"I am most of these religions," he said. "I have no problem saying that I prescribe to multiple religions and philosophies because I don't think any one [religion] can define the divine."

Stewart's spiritual exploration mirrors a recent pattern among college-age students.

A study released in February by the Pew Forum, a nonpartisan organization reporting on religious issues, has found that more than one-quarter of Americans above the age of 18 have left the religion in which they were raised.

Of the 16 percent of adults who said they are unaffiliated with a religious institution, nearly one-third are between ages 18 and 29, making it the largest religious identity for adults in that age group. The shift away from established religion is also taking place among those in other age ranges, with nearly 40 percent of those between 30 and 49 identifying as unaffiliated.

By surveying 35,000 American adults, the study found the unaffiliated group to be the fastest-growing group, gaining more members than any other religious denomination. The group is composed of those who deny the ex-

FOR MORE COVERAGE ...

of religious issues on campus go to page 7

istence of a god, known as atheists; those who are unsure of the existence of a god, known as agnostics; those who are not religious at all; and those who are religious but not affiliated with a group.

Dan Cox, a research associate at the Pew Forum, said the growth of the unaffiliated group is distinct to this generation. Finding the reasons for this growth is the next step for the Pew Forum, he said.

"Maybe it's the technology or that today's youth is better educated than their grandpar-

See **RELIGION**, page 4

ICSD apologizes to Kearney

BY AARON MUNZER
SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER

The Ithaca City School District's Board of Education formally apologized to Ithaca College student Amelia Kearney and her daughter at a press conference last Thursday afternoon for all the suffering the family had endured throughout their two-year harassment case against the district.

Board President Thomas Frank and Superintendent Judith Pastel vowed to work with the community to promote equity and to implement more staff training and diversity initiatives in accordance with a judge's recent recommendations in the case that brought to light racism in the schools and shocked the Ithaca community.

"The board and the district are committed to working with all stakeholders to create a truly inclusive community where all children are valued and feel genuinely safe," Frank said. "Clearly, we have not achieved that goal and will need all of Ithaca's help to do so."

In a recommendation released Monday, Administrative Law Judge Christine Marbach Kellett of the New York State Division of Human Rights suggested the district pay Kearney and her daughter \$1 million in damages and said in scathing language that the district had failed to protect Kearney's daughter. Kellett said the dis-

trict's challenge of the Human Rights Division's jurisdiction was also wrong. The final court order will not be finalized until a new commissioner of the division is chosen.

Frank and Pastel would not say how they plan to respond to or appeal the judge's report; only that they were "surprised" by the amount of damages and are still considering their response — they have until May 2 to do so. The board did take a remorseful tone in their statements.

"We're sorry; we're sorry for what happened to Kearney's family," said Beth Kunz, a board member. "We're trying, as a board, to apologize. I, as an individual, am deeply sorry."

The recommendation came two years after Kearney's then 12-year-old daughter, Epiphany, was racially harassed at DeWitt Middle School. In hearings, the district admitted that within a five-month period it did not do enough to protect Epiphany from repeated instances of racial harassment during the 2005–06 academic year. Kearney is a 37-year-old student at the college majoring in sociology.

On Wednesday, Kearney said the district's apology was "too little, too late."

She said she wished the board had implemented more of the judge's recommendations for district-wide diversity training and stronger disciplinary codes.

In its annual budget meetings this week,



From left, Thomas Frank, president of the Ithaca City School District's Board of Education, and Judith Pastel, the district's superintendent, answer questions last Thursday at a press conference.
AARON MUNZER/THE ITHACAN

the board did make certain concessions to the judge's recommendation. It tentatively approved \$22,500 for a series of staff workshops on working against racism and funding for a human resources specialist who the district said will be key to recruiting diverse employees. In addition, it earmarked \$108,000 for a bias response officer

to help the district deal more effectively with incidents of racial harassment.

Pastel said the district plans to significantly bolster its equity-related training and staff and will require administrators to go to

See **APOLOGY**, page 4

{THIS WEEK}
24 THURSDAY

Employee Recognition Celebration from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Emerson Suites

Meeting and Event Management Workshop sponsored by SGA from noon to 3 p.m. in the Taughannock Falls Meeting Room

“Yellowstone Picnic in the Park” from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Terrace Dining Hall

Mesa Española from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Terrace Dining Hall

Let’s De-stress! sponsored by Active Minds from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in the McDonald Lounge

The Price of Fire: Resource Wars and Social Movements in Bolivia sponsored by ICES from 7 to 10 p.m. in Textor 102

25 FRIDAY

Legacy of Service, a celebration for President Peggy R. Williams, at 3 p.m. on the Campus Center quad

Shabbat Services at 6 p.m. in Muller Chapel

Shabbat dinner at approximately 7:15 p.m. on the Terrace Dining Hall balcony

Senior Class Happy Hour from 5 to 7 p.m. at Moonshadows Tavern, 114 E. State St.

26 SATURDAY

Sport Management & Media Awards Ceremony from 4 to 10 p.m. in the Klingenstein Lounge

27 SUNDAY

Mesa Española at noon in the Terrace Dining Hall

28 MONDAY

Administrative Professional’s Breakfast Celebration sponsored by the Office of Human Resources from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Emerson Suites

Screening of “Life is Beautiful” at 8 p.m. in the Phillips Room of the Muller Chapel

29 TUESDAY

IC Environmental Society weekly meeting at 8 p.m. in Friends 203

ADD YOUR EVENT

Drop events for “This Week” in the marked box in *The Ithacan* office, or e-mail Assistant News Editor Elizabeth Sile at esile1@ithaca.edu by 5 p.m. Monday.

CORRECTIONS

It is *The Ithacan’s* policy to correct all errors of fact. Please contact Assistant News Editor Elizabeth Sile at 274-3207.

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Nation&World

Clinton takes Pennsylvania primary

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton won the most delegates in Pennsylvania’s Democratic primary Tuesday.

Clinton won at least 80 of the 158 delegates up for grabs, according to an analysis of election returns by The Associated Press. Sen. Barack Obama won at least 66, with 12 still to be awarded.

The final delegate count was delayed because many of Pennsylvania’s counties are split into multiple congressional districts. Pennsylvania awards delegates according to the statewide vote as well as the vote in individual congressional districts.

Election officials were expected to continue working Wednesday to assign votes from split counties to the appropriate congressional districts.

In the overall race for the nomination, Obama led with 1,714.5 delegates, including separately chosen party and elected officials known as superdelegates. Clinton had 1,589.5 delegates, according to the AP tally.

Petraeus nominated for command

Army Gen. David Petraeus, the four-star general who’s led troops in Iraq for the past year, will be nominated by President Bush to be the next commander of U.S. Central Command, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said yesterday.

Gates also announced that Bush will nominate Army Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno to replace Petraeus in Baghdad.

Central Command oversees the wars in Iraq and in Afghanistan.

If confirmed by the Senate, Petraeus would replace Navy Adm. William Fallon, who abruptly stepped down in March after a magazine reported that he was at odds with President Bush over Iran policy. Fallon said the report, while not true, had become a distraction.

Army Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno, currently commander of the Army’s 3rd Corps based at Fort Hood, Texas, finished in February a 15-month tour as the top deputy to Petraeus in Baghdad.

Petraeus, 55, is widely hailed by the Bush administration and members of Congress for developing and implementing a new strategy in Iraq, including the deployment of some 30,000 additional troops, that dramatically improved security.

Zimbabwe’s neighbors block arms

Zimbabwe’s regime got a taste of the international isolation critics say it deserves, with its neighbors blocking a shipment of Chinese arms to prevent them from being used against Robert Mugabe’s opponents. China said Tuesday the weapons might be



Let them throw cake

Performers throw specially made “cakes” at one another as part of the Festival of English Food and St. George’s Day yesterday in London’s Trafalgar Square. London’s famous Borough Market moved to the square for the day to celebrate traditional English cuisine and culture.

LEFTERIS PITRAKIS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

returned home.

Union, church and human rights leaders across southern Africa rallied against allowing the Chinese freighter An Yue Jiang to dock at ports in any of landlocked Zimbabwe’s neighbors, and they were bolstered by behind-the-scenes pressure from the U.S.

In the end, governments usually unwilling to criticize Mugabe barred the ship at a time when Zimbabwe’s government is being accused of cracking down on dissenters.

On Tuesday, church leaders in Zimbabwe said people were being tortured, abducted and murdered in a campaign of retribution against opposition supporters following the March 29 election and urged international intervention.

In Washington, the State Department said it had urged countries in southern Africa — notably South Africa, Mozambique, Angola and Namibia — not to allow the ship to dock or unload. It also asked the Chinese government to recall the vessel and not to make further weapons shipments to Zimbabwe until the postelection crisis is resolved.

Mountaineer forbidden from Everest

An American mountain climber with a “Free Tibet” banner was forced to turn back from Mount Everest, which Chinese climbers carrying the Olympic torch plan to summit next month, officials said yesterday.

The climber was caught with the banner in his bags at Everest’s base camp, said officials at the Tourism Ministry in Nepal’s capital, Katmandu. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to speak to reporters.

Katmandu-based Himalayan Guides Treks and Expeditions, which got the permit for the climber, identified him as William Brant Holland but was not able to give details on his age or hometown.

The government has issued a notice to the agency seeking clarification, said Umid Bhandari, an employee with the expedition company.

It was not clear what the government would do about Holland’s case once he returned to Katmandu. Officials said he would probably be banned from mountaineering in Nepal for the next few years.

SOURCE: Associated Press

College&City

Event to raise awareness about domestic violence

The Ithaca Advocacy Center and Take Back the Night will host the annual Take Back the Night march and rally tomorrow.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a free women’s self-defense class at the Center Pavilion on the Commons. Marches will meet at 7 p.m. at Textor Hall at Ithaca College, downtown at the Greater Ithaca Activities Center and at Ho Plaza at Cornell University. All three marches will meet on the Ithaca Commons at 7:30 p.m. for the rally.

The rally will host several speakers, survivor speak-outs and a candlelight vigil.

For more information, contact Patty Tvaroha at the Advocacy Center at 277-3203, or takebackthenight2008@yahoo.com.

Campus to say goodbye to outgoing administrators

The Ithaca College community will have a chance to say farewell to Arthur Ostrander, dean of the School of Music, and Howard Erlich, dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences, next week.

A reception for Ostrander will be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. May 2 in the McHenry Lobby in the James J. Whalen Center. A reception for Erlich will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m. May 7 in the Dillingham Center lobby.

Ostrander and Erlich both announced plans to step down from their positions in May 2008. Ostrander will retire at the end of a sabbatical year in May 2009 while Erlich will have the opportunity to return as faculty when his year-long sabbatical ends.

Downtown library to hold annual spring book sale

The Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library will host an annual spring book sale for three weeks ending starting Saturday.

The library sale will include more than 250,000 books, audio books, CDs, DVDs, video games, sheet music and other items for all ages and interests. Prices decrease daily.

The sale will occur from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the first day, and noon to 8 p.m. on the last day. On all other days the sale will open at 10 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

For more information, or to volunteer, visit www.booksale.org.

Residential life cancels proposed housing option

Ithaca College Residential Life will not offer students a gender neutral housing option for the 2008-2009 semester.

Because only three people expressed interest in living on a gender-neutral floor and Residential Life must be able to fill at least half of the floor with registered students, the option has been postponed.

The housing option would have allowed students to live with the roommate of their choice regardless of gender. Additionally, the bathroom would have been gender-neutral.

The college will offer the housing option again for Fall 2009.

Health promotion group to host planning meeting

The Ithaca College Health Promotion Committee and the Division of Student Life and Campus Affairs seeks students, staff and faculty to participate in a planning meeting for National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week today at 1 p.m. in the DeMotte Room.

The week will be observed at Ithaca College Sept. 21 to 27.

The goal of the week is to reduce high-risk drinking and its negative consequences.

To participate in today’s meeting, e-mail Priscilla Quirk at pquirk@ithaca.edu.

Ithaca Festival volunteer sign-up deadline extended

The deadline to participate in the 2008 Ithaca Festival, to be held June 19 to 22, has been extended to next Thursday.

Participants can perform, sell crafts and art, enter in the parade, sell food, exhibit, volunteer and organize activities.

The theme of the 31st annual festival is “I am Ithaca,” celebrating Ithaca residents’ talents and unique qualities.

To apply, visit www.ithacafestival.org and select the “applications” link.

Mental health association to host panel discussion

The Mental Health Association of Tompkins County will host a panel discussion on “The Stigmas that Hinder African Americans from Seeking Mental Health Services” from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday at the Greater Ithaca Activities Center, 3189 N. Albany St.

For more information, contact Carmen at the Mental Health Association at 273-9250.

Cuts in Perkins Loan program affect students

BY DAVID DURRETT
STAFF WRITER

While Perkins Loan programs for colleges across the country are threatened by a lack of funding and new rules, Ithaca College has maintained the number and size of its loans even in the face of cutbacks.

The Perkins Loan program, established in 1958, gives low-interest loans to students based on financial need, which is determined by how much their families can contribute to fund their education. The loans have an interest rate of 5 percent and can be paid back during the course of a 10-year period.

Less than 3 percent of all American postsecondary education students receive Perkins loans each year, and the loans distribute \$1 billion in aid to about 1,900 colleges. This year, 1,192 students at the college received Perkins Loans, compared to 1,064 last year and 978 the year before.

Colleges distribute Perkins loans from a fund of both their own money and contributions from the federal government. The college's fund is replenished when students repay their loans.

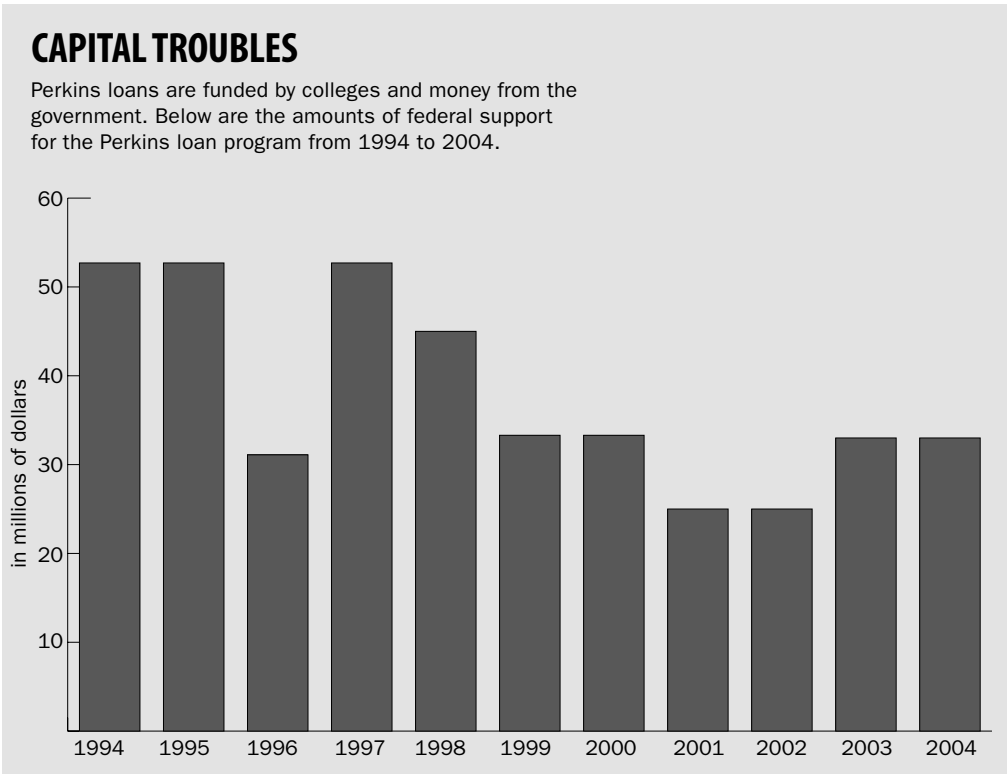
"We give the schools the money and then they pass it out from there, so when they go and collect on it, it regenerates the money that's handed out," said Christy Anderson, a spokesperson for the U.S. Department of Education.

Ithaca College is authorized to allocate \$1.8 million to its Perkins Loans — up from \$1.6 million last year and \$1.5 million the year before. Loans cap at \$1,500 per student at the college, but in special cases, can go as high as to the national limit of \$4,000.

Three years ago, the federal government ceased its capital contribution to the program, thus requiring colleges to fund the loans themselves. The 2009 Fiscal Year Department of Education Justification of Appropriation Estimations to Congress requested no further contributions, stating the Perkins Loans were "poorly targeted" and "duplicative" of the Federal Direct Loan and Federal Family Education Loan. The group suggested that contributions to the Perkins Loan program be eliminated in order to give higher maximum loans to those programs.

"Whatever loan it is, all these loans are pretty much the same," Anderson said.

Some colleges have reduced the size of their average loans, but Ithaca College's loans have re-



mained — and will remain — the same size given out to the same number of students each year.

Larry Chambers, director of student financial services at the college, said because the college is relatively small, less money is required to fund the loans, resulting in a smaller federal contribution and therefore a less significant loss.

"The federal contribution to our program has not been significant, so it's not as big of a loss of revenue stream from us," he said.

Chambers said by contrast, Iowa State University, which allocated \$6 million to Perkins Loans, had to cut the size of the loans significantly, from \$1,873 last year to \$1,060 this year.

Chambers credited the college's successful program to its relatively high rate of repayment, as only 2.42 percent of the college's Perkins loans defaulted. In June 2006, around 8 percent of all Perkins loans nationwide defaulted.

"Your hope is that you're getting enough people paying back their loans so that you can continue to lend out new loans," Chambers said. "Ithaca College has been blessed, I would say, and so far, ... our

students do a great job of repaying their Perkins loan obligations."

Chambers said because the federal government was no longer making contributions to the program, Ithaca College needed to be careful about spending the money it had and could not expand the loans.

"We have a lot more students that qualify for the Federal Perkins Loan program than we have dollars to give," he said.

Robert Miller, a student pursuing an MBA in Business Administration who is receiving a Perkins loan, said the government should help students fund their education.

"Education is something that should be accessible to everybody regardless of their financial situation," he said.

Chambers said while the number of borrowers was limited by the amount of money available, most students who were eligible to take part in the program chose to do so.

"It's a wonderful program — I wish we were able to lend out more," he said.

Campus elects new leaders for 2008-09

BY REBECCA WEBSTER
STAFF WRITER

The Student Government Association announced Monday the results of the elections held last week for the 2008-09 school year.

The Reconstruction Team, which includes junior Cornell Woodson as SGA President; junior Dan Wald as vice president of campus affairs; junior Sharlene Nichols as vice president of academics; sophomore Miriam Feldman as vice president of business and finance; and sophomore Luke Elmers as vice president of communication, will be the 2008-09 SGA Executive Board.

Woodson said the group is looking forward to making next year's SGA more "student driven."

"Our goal is to open the [channel] of communication, to allow much more conversation between SGA and the student body," Woodson said. "Our hope is that we will empower students to become leaders and to take more active roles as integral members of the student body."

Woodson hopes to create some new jobs on SGA to help students get some experience in event planning and get involved in the campus community. Woodson also looks forward to continuing work on a shuttle proposal.

SGA president and senior Aaron Bloom said he was pleased with the election results.

"I believe [the Reconstruction Team] has the most experience within CSLI and campus leadership positions," Bloom said. "There will be a sense of continuity between [this year's and next year's] executive boards."

Team Re:New, which ran uncontested, will become the senior class council. The group includes juniors A.J. Mizes as president, Christian Balch as vice president, Amy Morse as secretary, and Chris Cherniss as treasurer.

Mizes said Team Re:New hopes to bring senior participation to a new level and is eager to create a better senior experience.

"We are really excited about setting a new bench mark," Mizes said.

Officers for the class of 2009 will be Candace Edwards, Mark Entwistle and Ellen Gagne. Taten-da Mbudzi, Jeff Goodwin, John Kessler and Hayley Henderson will represent the class of 2010. The class of 2011 council will be represented by Ruthanne Goff, Caitlin Cleary, Stephen Lovell and Kevin Fish.

SGA also announced senators for four of the college's six schools. Freshman Dana Molinsky will represent the School of Health Science and Human Performance, freshman Mia Jackson will represent the School of Humanities and Sciences, junior Tawanda Dzangare will represent the School of Business and freshman Mike D'Agostino will represent the Roy H. Park School of Communications.

Bloom said the combination of new and continuing members will benefit SGA and the college.

"The fact of the matter is that fresh ideas and fresh voices are always good for an organization," he said. "I think it's important for them to focus their efforts and not necessarily get so bogged down in the wide variety of initiatives SGA does."

Campus commemorates Earth Day through events

BY REBECCA WEBSTER
STAFF WRITER

This week, the Ithaca College Environmental Society is hosting a full week of events to promote environmental awareness and celebrate Earth Day.

Anjuli Kronheim, co-president of ICES, said the college's observance of Earth Day is as imperative as observing other major holidays.

"It's important that we think about this stuff all the time," Kronheim said. "[Earth Week] is just as important as [other celebrations]."

Earth Day, which started nearly four decades ago, is a biannual holiday celebrated in the spring in the Northern hemisphere and in the winter in the Southern hemisphere.

By celebrating Earth Day for an entire week, Kronheim said ICES hopes students will be inspired to become more involved in the pressing issues facing the environment.

Senior Elizabeth Gwinn, a member of ICES, said the week offers an extremely diverse array of events that will be rewarding for the campus community.

"[The events are] pretty far reaching this year, which is exciting," Gwinn said.

To kick off Ithaca College's observance of Earth Day, environmental photos taken by the community were displayed in the lobby of the Campus

Center last week.

Bill Richardson, the director of Greenpeace International, gave a presentation Monday about how the organization promotes environmental consciousness. Greenpeace, formed in 1971, aims to address pressing environmental issues, such as global warming. Richardson also spoke with students about how they can get involved in the organization.

After attending the presentation, Gwinn said Richardson's explanation of Greenpeace operations could be applied to more than just environmental activism.

"It's cool to see first of all how an organization like that works," Gwinn said. "His presentation was inspiring, even for those who aren't environmental[ists] at all. He talked a lot about coming up with a goal, even if it seems totally unachievable, and going towards it."

Brooke Hansen, associate professor of anthropology, spoke Tuesday about Native American environmentalism. In her presentation, Hansen said Native American knowledge could be a viable tool in understanding how best to revitalize our land.

"We can learn a lot from native people," Hansen said.

Also on Tuesday, Sustainability



Senior Katy Gentile bikes Tuesday to power a generator connected to a blender that makes smoothies on the academic quad for Earth Day.

EVAN FALK/THE ITHACAN

at Ithaca and the Student Activities Board showed a free screening of the environmental documentary "The 11th Hour," which presents innovative ways to restore the planet's ecosystem. Following the film, several faculty members hosted an open discussion.

The GreenStar Co-op hosted a Vegetarian Teach-In yesterday, where students were able to learn about alternative eating options.

The campus community will have the opportunity today to learn about environmentally conscious health products at a presentation from noon to 1 p.m. in Textor 102. The presentation, called the Natu-

ral Beauty Campaign, will include free samples of natural and organic make-up products.

Susan Allen-Gil, associate professor of biology and coordinator of the environmental studies program, said this week is the perfect chance for students to recognize the value of the environment.

"Celebrating Earth Day is like celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday or Presidents Day ... or any of the other major holidays we have, in terms of appreciating ... what we have and making sure that we continue to honor our respect and responsibility for it," Allen-Gil said.

Students seek identity through spiritual growth

RELIGION

FROM PAGE 1

ents,” he said. “No one really has an answer to this question yet.”

Wade Clark Roof, a professor of religious studies at University of California-Santa Barbara, who observed the roots of spiritual seeking in his research on the baby boomer generation, said widespread information and technology are contributing to spiritual seeking in youth culture in unprecedented ways.

“The Internet is helping increase our literacy of religion,” he said. “It’s helping show Americans and people around the world that religion is like a toolbox and there are many ways you can put the tools together to create your own religious interpretation.”

Reverend Kenneth Clarke, director of the Cornell United Religious Work, said he has observed a shift from rigid religious groups to a more fluid religious identity since he was in college in the 1970s.

“Students are much more willing to experiment,” he said. “They’re willing not only to change religions, but also to develop their own eclectic style of religion by taking aspects from different religions to put together their own spirituality.”

Roof said young people are more likely to say they are unaffiliated because of the vast religious diversity that exists.

“There are a lot of people out there who I call questers or seekers,” he said. “This group is saying, ‘Religion is a big world, it’s a cafeteria, and I’d like to explore what’s in it.’”

At the college, there are services for the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish populations, and six religious oriented clubs: Awaken, formerly known as Students for Christ; the IC Catholic Community; IC Core, for-

merly known as IC Peace; Hands of Praise; the Amani Gospel choir; and Hillel. Three of those groups have formed since 2001. The Cornell United Religious Work manages 28 religious communities on its campus, an increase from 12 in 1952, which Clarke said demonstrates the growth of religious diversity.

The Pew Forum study reported the Catholic faith has lost more people in the past 30 years than any other religious group. About one-third of American adults raised Catholic have left the church.

From 1980 to 2000, the Catholic Church in Tompkins County lost 18 percent of its members, according to the Association of Religion Data Archives. In 2000, Catholics still made up the second-largest group — out of 29 religious denominations in the county — with 10,000 residents. The largest group, totaling 70,000 residents, is unaffiliated.

Sophomore Elizabeth Kranz and her parents left the Catholic Church when she was in eighth grade. She had attended Catholic school for nine years, but she said her family decided to separate from the church following reports of priest scandals.

“We felt like [the church] just wasn’t doing anything for us anymore,” she said. “We didn’t feel like we were getting anything out of it.”

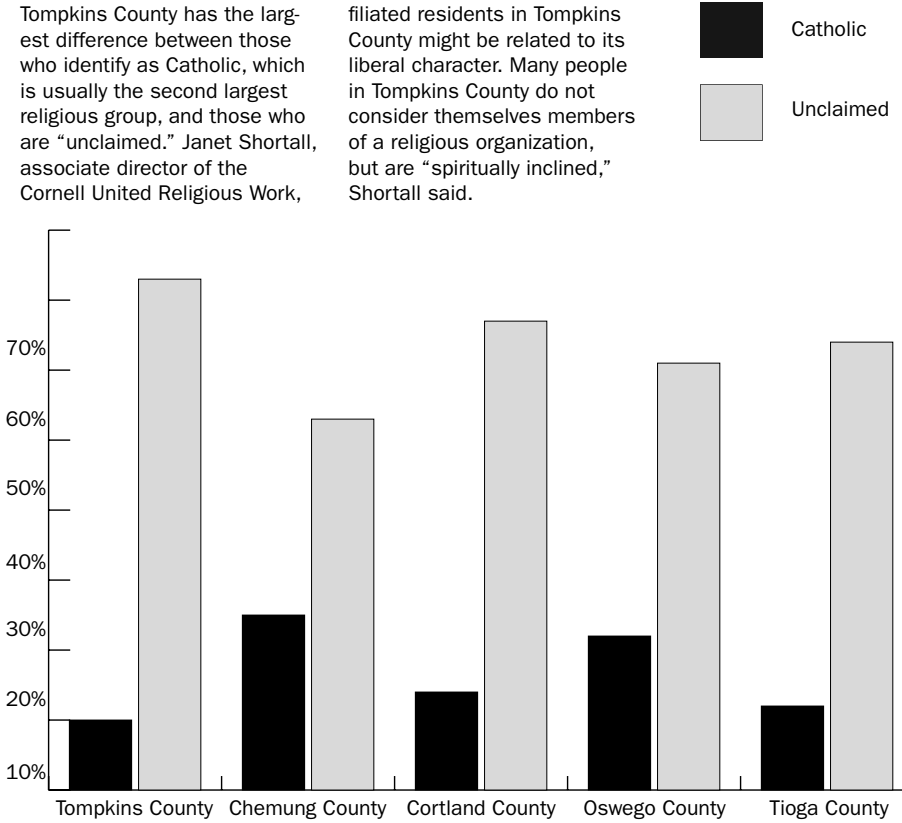
Kranz, who now describes herself as agnostic but spiritual, said her personal decision to leave was also based on her political beliefs.

“I was raised in a medical family,” she said. “I’m pro-choice and for gay rights, and I saw my personal beliefs conflicting with the church. And I just didn’t want to put myself in that situation anymore where I felt uncomfortable being in the church.”

THE CHANGING FACE OF FAITH

Compared to its neighbors, Tompkins County has the largest difference between those who identify as Catholic, which is usually the second largest religious group, and those who are “unclaimed.” Janet Shortall, associate director of the Cornell United Religious Work,

said the large number of unaffiliated residents in Tompkins County might be related to its liberal character. Many people in Tompkins County do not consider themselves members of a religious organization, but are “spiritually inclined,” Shortall said.



SOURCE: ASSOCIATION OF RELIGION DATA ARCHIVES
DESIGN BY LENA YUE

Stewart said he chose to attend both Catholic masses and Jewish services on campus for their welcoming communities.

“I like the communalism of the Jewish services,” he said. “You have all week to worship by yourself and then you come together once a week with people who don’t necessarily need to believe the same things as you.”

Father Carsten Martensen, the chaplain of the Ithaca College Catholic community, said he supports the idea of spiritual seeking, especially on campus.

“College is a time to learn and search

and challenge and change and seek and question,” he said. “It’s important for a college student to identify where one has come from and to set a course or direction for one to go into the future.”

For many college students like Stewart, separating from traditional religions is more about finding personal spirituality than proof of the divine.

“I don’t see a problem with something I believe conflicting with something else I believe,” Stewart said. “I know somehow I’ll figure it out, or God will show me. Or maybe that’s the truth.”

ICSD to allot funds for staff training

APOLOGY

FROM PAGE 1

a three-day workshop this summer at the Institute for the Study and Promotion of Race and Culture. Pastel also cited numerous other staff training workshops and a plan to have bus drivers work for three more days per year for staff development and diversity training.

If the commissioner approves the judge’s recommendation, the district will also be responsible for paying the \$1 million recommended compensation to Kearney’s family because the district’s insurance does not cover damages resulting from “pain and suffering,” Frank said.

“Any costs that stem from the final decision will be born by the district,” he said. “Our insurance does not cover those costs.”

If they are awarded, the damages will come out of the district’s annual

operating budget and will affect taxpayers, the officials said.

At a board of education budget meeting Tuesday, board members tentatively discussed the effect the \$1 million loss would have on their finances.

“It’s a potential mid-year problem,” said board member Deborah O’Connor.

At the press conference, Pastel said she had learned a lot about how to be a better superintendent through the ordeal, which included a sit-in in her office, several protests and heated board of education meetings.

“I learned a great deal over the last year, especially during the fall, better ways to deal with things, other options and strategies to use,” Pastel said. “It’s a priority to do a better job in this area.”

In her recommendation, Kellett wrote that district officials had allowed

the harassment of Kearney’s daughter.

“[The district] permitted such discriminatory conduct by failing to take appropriate or meaningful actions to stop these racially motivated attacks despite the opportunity and authority to do so,” Kellett said in her report.

Frank said he spoke for the board when he said they needed to make sure situations like the harassment of Kearney’s daughter would never happen again.

“The full board agrees that at every level and throughout the district, we must do better, must improve our ability to prevent such events from occurring in the future and respond more effectively if situations do occur,” he said.

As for Kearney, when she graduates from the college next year, she will not be heading to Cornell University, where she planned to study



From left, Ithaca City School District Board of Education member Deborah O’Connor; Thomas Frank, president of the Board; and Judith Pastel, the district’s superintendent, discuss the budget at a meeting last Thursday.
AARON MUNZER/THE ITHACAN

law. She said the whole ordeal has forced her to leave Ithaca. She has already sent her daughter to live with her sister in Westchester and attend school there, because Kearney said

Epiphany had been continually harassed as recently as December at Ithaca High School.

“I’ve never been separated from her,” she said. “It’s broken my heart.”

MAKING THE CASE

A look at the major events of the Kearney v. Ithaca City School District case

2005

- Oct. 3**
Amelia Kearney, a student at Ithaca College, said her daughter was being harassed on the school bus. Kearney says her then 12-year-old daughter Epiphany was spat on, hit and threatened with violence and racial epithets by a group of white students.
- Oct. 16**
Kearney sends a letter to the DeWitt Middle School principal, Ithaca City School District Superintendent Judith Pastel and the transportation director about the situation.
- December 2005**
Kearney sends e-mails to Pastel and members of the ICSD Board of Education.

2006

- Jan. 13**
Kearney files complaint with the Tompkins County Human Rights Commission and the New York State Division of Human Rights alleging that the district did not protect Kearney’s daughter from harassment.
- Nov. 13**
Human Rights Commission finds probable cause in Kearney’s claim, and the case moves forward.

2007

- Aug. 13**
ICSD Board of Education questions whether the state’s human rights laws protect students at public high schools.
- Oct. 1**
About 80 people from the Ithaca community march into ICSD administrative offices shouting for Pastel to resign.
- Oct. 10**
Around 50 Ithaca High School students skip class to protest the Board of Education’s response to racial incidents at the school.
- Oct. 23**
ICSD Board of Education votes unanimously to withdraw its challenge of the state law.
- Dec. 19**
Kearney v. ICSD hearing held in the Borg Warner Community Meeting Room in the Tompkins County Public Library.

2008

- April 7**
Kumiki Gibson, division commissioner for the human rights commission, resigns, which delays the case.
- April 11**
Administrative Law Judge Christine Kellett recommends ICSD pay Kearney \$1 million in damages.
- April 17**
Board of Education formally apologizes to Kearney.

President leaves legacy of service and community

BY ERICA R. HENDRY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Her office window is less visible now, an afterthought against the cranes, rubble and temporary walkways suffocating what used to be the forefront of campus. In the farthest left-hand corner of the room, where a row of floor-to-ceiling windows meets the wall, Peggy R. Williams pops up on her toes and steadies herself against a bookshelf, still straining to see the sprawling hills that rise and fall around Cayuga Lake. It used to be the president's favorite space on campus — before the School of Business obstructed her view from South Hill; before Ithaca College's Master Plan expanded the campus by nearly a third; before her

A SHIFT AT THE TOP

PEGGY R. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT
OF ITHACA COLLEGE

vision for the 116-year-old institution began to materialize, literally, in front of her eyes.

"I never get tired of this," she said, letting her weight fall back onto her heels as she drops back down to the floor. "I drive up to work and go, 'Oh my God, who works in a place like this?'"

The seventh and only female president has spent the last 11 of her 36 years in higher education on the third floor of Job Hall, striving for benchmarks she called "The New Ithaca" at the beginning of her tenure. These included a more defined and visible commitment to diversity in ideology and populations; a commitment to sustainability; a broader and renewed focus on interdisciplinary learning and a blueprint that included a new home for the School of Business; space for administrative offices and the Athletic and Events Center, projected as the largest indoor facility in Tompkins County.

The vision was outlined in the college's Institutional Plan, a document adopted in 2001 with the intention of steering the campus and its goals.

"It was [created as] a living document for the institution," Williams said.

In July, Williams announced she would step down at the end of the 2007-08 academic year and serve in a sabbatical role until she retired



President Peggy R. Williams stands in front of the new Dorothy D. and Roy H. Park Center for Business and Sustainable Enterprise on March 24. Williams will step down next month and retire at the end of a sabbatical year next May. CONNOR GLEASON/THE ITHACAN

in 2009. As she nears that time, the community has started to look back on what has been accomplished from her blueprint, but Williams said she's spent so much of her career pushing toward the future that it's hard for her to look back.

"I don't think that way," she said. "I came to a place that was strong and vibrant and my responsibility was to help us figure out the things

we needed to do to keep us moving ahead as times change."

LEADERSHIP

Williams came to Ithaca from Lyndon State College in Vermont, where she had been president for about eight years. She arrived on the heels of a 25-year tenure by former President James J. Whalen, whose leadership was widely supported but also faced criticism for its "lack of consensus," which prompted a vote of no confidence from the faculty in 1995.

So when the Montreal native entered her first meeting with the board in 1997, she stood at the head of the table waving a blank notepad above her head, to indicate, she said, that the way she intended to lead was quite different.

"I'm much better at being at the table than I am yelling and screaming from afar," Williams said.

Carl Sgrecci, vice president for finance and administration, said her participatory style of leadership impressed the faculty and will be remembered as one of the president's greatest marks on the college.

"She's just done a lot to establish what I'd call a collegial envi-

ronment," he said earlier this year. "She recognized the institution had momentum."

Williams used that momentum to pioneer initiatives like the college's first Capital Campaign, which ended in February with \$145 million in donations, and the Master Plan, a two-phase project approved in 2002 that put priority on new residence halls, a field house and administrative offices.

She expected the plan to take 10 years. And though some facets of the plan were not completed, the projects that were — the Circle Apartments, the new School of Business, the Gateway Building and, soon, a new Athletic and Events Center — took just more than half of that time.

"It's a puzzle like you've never seen," she said. "I don't think an institution like this ever would have thought that phase one of the Master Plan would be realized in 10 years, let alone six or seven," she said.

A number of her initiatives are now visible on the campus: Her increase of the student base by 400 to keep the number of enrolled undergraduates around 6,000; a strong interest in community service, cemented by the inception of the first

full-time coordinator of community service and annual programs such as the Celebration of Service and Community Plunge.

DIVERSITY

What has marked her career, beyond buildings, is a commitment to diversity. When Williams arrived, the number of African, Latino, Asian and Native American students was just 5 or 6 percent, a figure that has since doubled.

"I didn't set a numeric goal when I got here because it would be too easy," she said. "You can't change the numbers overnight, but you can do other things to keep educating people about the world."

Before the campus created that kind of dialogue, most notably through the Unity Conference in 2006, racial tensions ran high and peaked during the Spring 2005 semester. After a string of racial and homophobic incidents, student groups became more vocal about their dissatisfaction with the administration's response. Williams responded by making the only campus-wide address — excluding those for convocation, commencement and Sept. 11 — of her career.

Williams spoke again at the Erase the Hate, a student organized rally, was held shortly thereafter at the Free Speech Rock. She "tried to control the anger in [her] voice" as she addressed a group of faculty, staff and students that stretched up to the library, past the Whalen Center and down across the quad.

"I made it clear what we were striving for and what we would or wouldn't tolerate," she said.

Michael McGreevey, who was Williams' assistant during the entirety of her tenure before leaving for Wells College in March, said how she handled the situation was indicative of her kind of leadership.

"I remember she said ... 'We should be above this,'" he said.

Numbers measuring the campus' diversity may have increased, but some students say a "campus feel" of acceptance is still needed, especially with this year's first-enrollment numbers indicating a decrease in black students on campus. Junior Cornell Woodson, a minority student and incoming Student Government Association president, said while he does not think this is because the college is not making an effort, minority students still arrive at the college and don't feel at home.

"They see this sea of white faces and think, 'I'm just going to be a speck,'" Woodson said. "I don't think Ithaca College appeals to black students. I don't think they can see themselves studying here for four years and being happy."

FACULTY WORKLOAD

Faculty workload, another goal Williams had when she arrived, is an issue lost in recent initiatives on campus, some faculty say, both on a college-wide level and within individual schools and departments.

Associate Provost David Garcia said in the fall that the college is in a stage where no full-time, continuing faculty on tenure or long-term contracts are teaching 24 credit hours, compared with a majority of the faculty teaching



From left, Steve Siconolfi, dean of the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance, and President Peggy R. Williams take a tour of the Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Rochester, N.Y., in October 2006. FILE PHOTO

See **WILLIAMS**, page 6

Williams remembered for strong campus vision

WILLIAMS

FROM PAGE 1

that amount when Williams arrived.

From 1999 to 2002, former Associate Provost Garry Brodhead coordinated a faculty project that allowed 36 of the then-38 academic departments to reduce teaching time to 21 hours. The last of these transitions was made this year, Garcia said. There has been no formal analysis of faculty workload since then.

Jodi Cohen, professor of speech communication, said, while she is no expert on the issue, she has taught four courses every semester during her 20 years at the college while also trying to balance the publishing and service the college expects of a tenured professor.

"Some of the problem was that, in order to change course load, we had to show how we could maintain the number of students we served through fewer sections," she said. "We were hesitant to shift, because bottom line is it means larger class size."

Sixty to 70 hour weeks during the course of a number of years, Cohen said, can lead to quick burn out. She said she may take an unpaid leave of absences next spring to maintain "the integrity" of her teaching.

The issue resurfaced in a more narrow scope in the School of Humanities and Sciences in November, when faculty there felt a proposal from the provost's office that aimed to increase the number of courses in the Ithaca Seminar Program was presented as a mandate.

As part of the 15-year program that existed before a new pilot of the program this semester, faculty taught one 4-credit seminar course in place of two 3-credit courses. The program, which became known as "six

for four," was traditionally staffed on a volunteer basis. Garcia said exchange could no longer be offered. Instead, faculty will be rewarded with a \$2,000 stipend for creating new courses for the program.

Faculty petitioned Howard Erlich, dean of the school, and the Office of the Provost later clarified their memo, saying the numbers were goals and any change would be voluntary, not required.

Garcia said in the fall, the school hoped to offer a number of seminars that reached the high 30s, compared to the 27 they offered last fall.

Rebecca Plante, assistant professor of sociology, said issues also exist on a greater, college-wide level. She said quantitative differences — such as the difference between teaching 30 students in a 200-level "Race & Ethnicity" class and 12 students in a 200-level "Software Engineering" course — and qualitative differences — between lab classes and lectures — need to be reviewed.

"Some of these things cannot be changed, but there may need to be some conversations about work load, distribution, expectations for tenure [and] expectations for continued 'successful' employment here," she said.

She said attracting a high quality, diverse faculty depends on how the college positions itself against other colleges of similar size and quality across the country.

SUSTAINABILITY AND PERSONAL COMMITMENT

Williams' commitment to health and sustainability in her own life, McGreevey said, has helped an attitude already generated by faculty and students explode. She wore a swimming and diving T-shirt at the closing ceremony for the Capital Campaign, attends almost all home football games and



From left, Herman E. "Skip" Muller Jr., former chair of the Board of Trustees, and President Peggy R. Williams walk through campus in 1997 while Williams was interviewing for her position.

FILE PHOTO

said she's thought of "dozens" of speeches while swimming in the Hill Center's pool.

The new School of Business is aiming to receive either a gold or platinum-level LEED certification, and the campus is six months into a two-year agreement to neutralize emissions as part of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment.

Special Assistant to the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Marian Brown said when the first big sustainability initiative was passed in 2001 she knew things "were not going to be business as usual."

"It was a chance for us to say 'Hey, Ithaca College is here and we're doing something very special,'" Brown said.

But what students and faculty close to her say they'll miss most is her less visible

influences — her sense of humor, her love for the outdoors and her fascination with the city and the campus.

"It takes the edge off of the intimidation factor," Student Government Association President and senior Aaron Bloom said. "She's kind of this goofy person that I personally have been able to get in touch with, but I think that ... [some students] don't get to appreciate that side of her."

McGreevey and Sgrecci said Williams' greatest legacy is the college's vision statement: fostering intellect, creativity and character.

"There's an expectation when you leave here that you're not only going to a profession, but that you're going to live a full life as an individual," she said. " ... I hope I've helped that."

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Preachers’ religious message met with student hostility

BY TRICIA L. NADOLNY
NEWS EDITOR

Two men visited campus Monday, preaching their Christian beliefs for nearly three hours until campus officials, citing the school’s solicitation policy, insisted they leave.

Miles Lewis, one of the preachers, stood above the crowd on the planter around the academic quad clock, addressing the students — upwards of 100 at one time — who gathered around him. Some stayed for hours, others just minutes, many responding with challenge and strong opposition.

“Racist, sexist, anti-gay, right-winged bigot, go away,” a student shouted from the crowd, attempting

above the crowd. Students raised their hands with questions and Lewis called on them one at a time. At times, the questions were simply shouted over his message.

“[My goal was] to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ as Jesus commanded his followers to do,” he said.

At around 4:30 p.m., Sybil Conrad, assistant director of the Campus Center, came outside and told Lewis he would have to leave because his visit was not sponsored by a campus group. According to the college’s solicitation policy, any off-campus groups must be sponsored by an on-campus group in order to obtain a solicitation permit. Conrad said

a few students, they left campus.

Freshman Sara Koch said Lewis’ presence at the college was “absurd.”

“He clearly came to the wrong campus,” she said.

Freshman Sam Gould, however, said he hoped the college would have been more accepting of the dialogue.

“You figure at a liberal campus you’d have more open-minded people and less hostility,” he said.

Gould, a philosophy and religion major, said he enjoys discussing matters of faith and was disappointed with the response of his fellow students.

“I’m sure all of these kids, when you ask them ‘Do you believe in a person’s right to free speech?’ would say ‘Yeah, yeah, I believe in free speech,’” he said. “But then they’re getting very angry and hostile at someone who’s voicing their opinion. ... Free speech only works if you let the person that you blatantly disagree with have their say as well.”

“It’s really actually made me lose a lot of faith in the school I go to.”
— **DILLON KONDOR**
SENIOR COMPOSITION MAJOR

to start a chant.

A few joined in but then trailed off.

Lewis, a member of the Syracuse-based Open Air Outreach ministry group, was joined by Christopher Deferio, a barista from Ithaca, who said he also came to campus to spread a Christian message. Deferio spoke one-on-one with students in the crowd while Lewis chose to address the entire group.

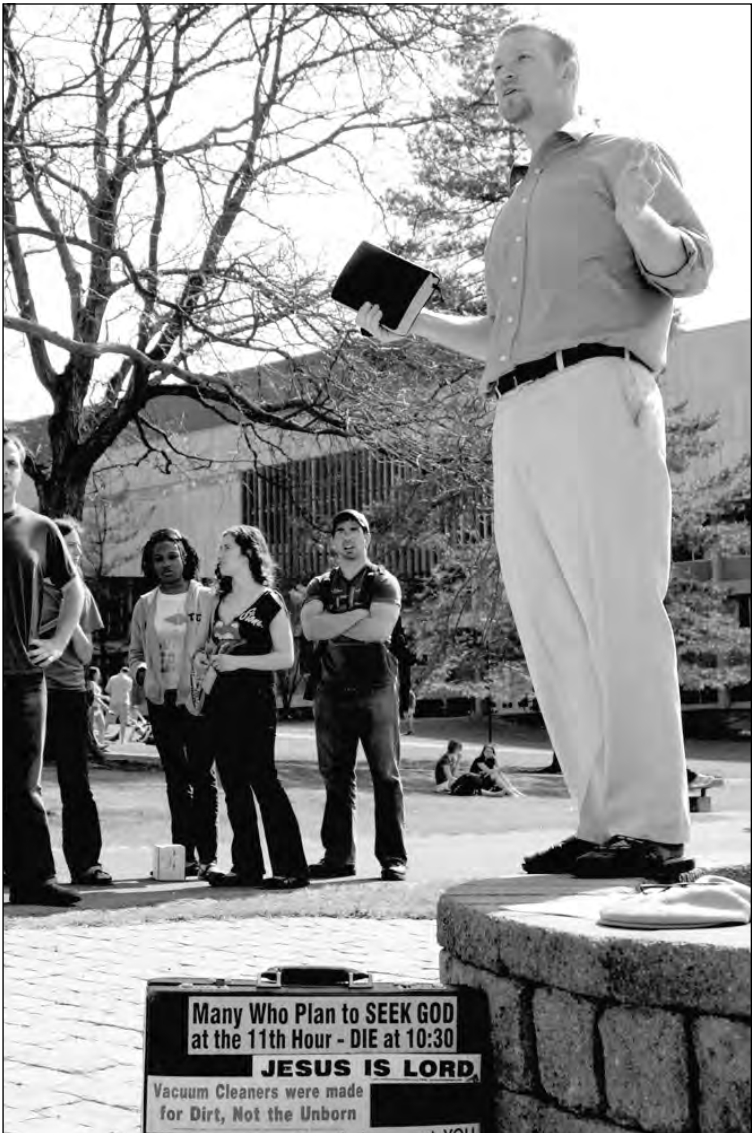
Lewis, who described himself as a born-again, bible-believing Christian, said he had been on the Cornell University campus earlier that day but decided to come to Ithaca College when he was unable to draw listeners. Standing in the Ithaca College quad, he held a bible against his neatly pressed shirt and spoke loudly

Lewis’ and Deferio’s actions counted as solicitation.

“I don’t really think this is a conversation as much as it is a rally for his cause,” she said. “[We have] nothing against his cause, or anyone else’s cause. It’s just that you have to go through the proper channels.”

Some students in the crowd, though, asked that Lewis be able to stay to continue the discussion. Conrad agreed to let Lewis speak for another 30 minutes. At around 5 p.m., she returned and asked Lewis to come with her so she could explain the solicitation policy to him.

Sergeant Bill Kerry arrived at around 5:15 p.m. and spoke with Lewis and Deferio. After lingering for another 30 minutes and speaking with



Miles Lewis, a member of the Open Air Outreach ministry group, preaches on the academic quad Monday. At one time, more than 100 students listened. MAX STEINMETZ/THE ITHACAN

every one of you,” she yelled, waving her arms in the air and receiving loud cheers from the nearly 20 students who had gathered around her.

Morris said she had come to listen with one of her classes. When her professor jokingly suggested that someone should make their own speech, she decided she would.

“It was a really good display of the Ithaca College support system ... in that once I got up, a lot of people left

what he was saying and came over to listen to whatever it was that I was saying,” she said.

Despite the opposition, Lewis said he was happy with the response he received from the campus.

“I really enjoyed the dialogue,” he said. “A lot of people were supporting what I said and plenty more that didn’t like what I had to say, so that’s what I come out here for — to talk to people who don’t agree.”

Graffiti sparks campus debate

BY KATHY LALUK
NEWS EDITOR

Residents of the Terraces awoke Monday morning to find that the outside of their homes had been redecorated — with chalk. Everything from small doodles, to inspirational quotes, to full-blown murals covered the sidewalks, stairways and walls of the residence hall complex.

Investigator Tom Dunn said Public Safety received four reports of graffiti on Sunday and two more Monday night. Of all six incidents, only one involved spray paint.

Dunn said Public Safety received three complaints Sunday and one Monday for chalk graffiti drawn in the Terraces. He said Public Safety identified some of the students involved on Monday around 11 a.m., and ultimately, nine students were judicially referred.

Dunn also said two more incidents of chalk graffiti were reported at 12:40 a.m. Tuesday on Substation Road and again at 3:45 a.m. near the Terraces. Dunn said four people were judicially referred between the two incidents.

“Chalking is considered graffiti by the college. Students who are caught ‘chalking’ are usually judicially referred,” he said. “Some people call it artwork, some people call it graffiti.”

Sophomore Nate Banfield, who organized the chalking event in the Terraces for Sunday through Facebook, said his intention was to get people outside to have a good time. He also said he knew the event went against the school’s chalking policy.

“The Terraces are just really ugly, so I thought it would be a great thing to just pull everybody outside to have fun and enjoy the nice weather,” he said. “We figured it wouldn’t be a big deal.”

Brian McAree, vice president of student affairs and campus life, said he received a report about the incidents in the Terraces, which said there were more than 60 instances of chalking in the area. McAree said the college’s chalking policy has been in place for several years.

“The policy is very straightforward: No chalking. Period,” he said. “Chalking is considered a form of graffiti and is not allowed anywhere on campus at any time.”

Banfield said he was in class Monday morning and was talking about the chalking he did Sunday, so his professor decided to take the whole class up to the Terraces to look around. When the class arrived, they were confronted by several workers from facilities services poised with brooms and buckets of soapy water to wash away the drawings.

Banfield and his class staged a sit-in to prevent the workers from washing away the drawings. He said Public Safety was called and threatened to arrest him and his classmates if they did not let the workers through. That’s when the group reluctantly moved aside.

McAree said the college’s stance on chalking stems from concerns of it ruining the aesthetics of the college, and it is an not environmentally-friendly practice.

Dunn said the policy protects the aesthetics of the buildings on campus, and chalking, along with and all forms of graffiti, are acts of vandalism.

“The side Public Safety has to come down on is [that] it’s not [the students’] property,” he said. “If chalk was drawn on the brick of your house, no doubt you’d be upset about it.”

Last April, the Student Government Association passed a proposal to change the chalking policy to allow student organizations to



Sophomore Nate Banfield watches a facilities plant worker wash away his chalk drawing near Terraces on Monday. Several instances of chalk graffiti were reported to Public Safety last weekend. DAVID KORMAN/THE ITHACAN

chalk as another form of advertising. McAree said the proposal was reviewed by the Solicitation Policy Committee and sent back to SGA with questions. He said SGA has not pursued the proposal this year.

Banfield said he did not intend the event as malicious and did not think that chalking was a particularly harmful practice.

“I mean, the concept is pretty straightforward: You give people chalk and they’ll make art,” he said. “We weren’t being harmful; [we were] just having fun and speaking our minds.”

Banfield said he thought the campus’ chalking policy restricted students’ free speech rights, and as long as the drawings were appropriate, they should be allowed.

“Honestly, I think that a lot of colleges have

really restrictive policies when it comes to free speech, including this college,” Banfield said. “I think the idea [proposed by SGA last year] ... to have only one spot on campus where you do have the right to free speech is ridiculous.”

McAree said he strongly believes the policy is a good one but is glad students are at least having discussions about it.

“The no-chalking policy has been on the books for years, but the thing we always struggle with is how to control it,” he said. “I think this is something that the campus definitely needs to have an ongoing dialogue about.”

Staff writer Samantha Allen contributed to this story.

SGA Election Results

SGA Executive Board

Reconstruction Team

President: Cornell Woodson

VP of Academics: Sharlene Nichols

VP of Campus Affairs: Daniel Wald

VP of Business and Finance: Miriam Feldman

VP of Communications: Luke Elmers

Senior Class Officers

Team Re:New

President: A.J. Mizes, Vice President: Christan Balch,

Treasure: Chris Cherniss, Secretary: Amy Morse

Class of 2009 Senators

Candace Edwards, Mark Entwistle, Ellen Gagne

Class of 2010 Senators

Tatenda Mabudzi, Jeff Goodwin, John Kessler,

Hayley Henderson

Class of 2011 senators

Ruthanne Goff, Caitlin Cleary, Stephen Lovell, Kevin Fish

School Senators

HSHP : Dana Molinsky

H&S: Mia Jackson

Business: Tawanda Dzangare

Communications: Mike D'Agostino

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Scholar brings unique background to college

BY DAN HAUSERMANN
STAFF WRITER

Gunshots rang through the air and brief yellow bursts lit up the dark sky in Tashkent, the capital city of Uzbekistan, the night after the U.S. and Israel embassies were bombed in July 2004.

Uzbek-native Vadim Isakov, then a correspondent for the Agence-France Presse, said he and his boss attempted to enter the hostile scene where local S.W.A.T. teams had located terrorists allegedly responsible for the bombings earlier that day. Suddenly, Isakov said he found himself with a gun in his face, as a capital police officer laid down the law.

"You aren't going anywhere, son," the officer said.

Isakov said while he was pleading with the officers, another reporter made a run for it. Isakov said a round of bullets spewed out of a guard's AK-47 and the journalist hit the ground.

"I thought I had just seen someone get killed in front of me," Isakov said. "It turned out that he had just fallen down when the gun went off."

Regardless of the end result, the point was clear: being a journalist in Uzbekistan is a dangerous profession.

Now, three years later, Isakov finds himself in a different atmosphere as the Scholar in Residence for the Roy H. Park School of Communications. The 30-year-old's young face and glasses give him the look of a student, but his gray-tinged hair and the khakis, collared shirt and sweater vest help him stand out.

Isakov's students are becoming

familiar with horror stories about being a journalist in an overly oppressive Uzbekistan society.

"He has shared a lot of experiences with us about going against the accepted practice in Uzbekistan," senior Samantha McGrath said. "It gives us a real life perspective."

Isakov has plenty of stories to tell. He grew up in a single-parent household as an only child and said most of his friends from his childhood are now either dead or in prison.

Isakov's big break came after he received his bachelor's degree in Uzbekistan and was accepted into a master's program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Isakov said he was excited but often overwhelmed by the cultural differences when he first arrived in the U.S. in 2000. He said he didn't know how to use an ATM when he first came to the country, but he quickly adjusted to his new life and discovered one of his favorite American traditions.

"I love McDonalds," Isakov said. "I always order a number one with a medium Coke, for here."

Though he had come to appreciate American culture and cuisine, Isakov moved back to Uzbekistan only two years after arriving in the U.S.

The move turned out to be worthwhile when Isakov became a regional correspondent for the AFP from 2003 to 2004. Isakov will often mix stories from these years in with his classes.

As he clicks through PowerPoint slides in class, Isakov will mention the time he found himself holed up in a jail cell for reporting on a group of Mus-



Vadim Isakov, a Scholar in Residence at Ithaca College, teaches his Issues and the News class Tuesday in Park 279. Isakov spent several years as an international journalist in Uzbekistan, his native country.
SAMANTHA CONSTANT/THE ITHACAN

lims accused of terrorism who were killed by government officials during interrogations. Isakov said after interviewing one of the men's mothers, he discovered the prisoners had no tie to any terrorist group and had been boiled to death in prison.

Soon after the report was published, Isakov said he was detained and was threatened with his girlfriend, Lyudmila, being raped in front of him if he didn't reveal his source.

"It was a big dilemma," Isakov said. "I basically had to choose my girlfriend or choose the mother. I knew either one was going to be horribly tortured."

Isakov said human rights defenders managed to transport his girlfriend out of the country and helped him get out of prison unharmed, but the real damage had been done. He

lost his job at the AFP because of his feud with the government.

Isakov waited for another opportunity — and found one. An out-of-the-blue phone call last spring from Dianne Lynch, dean of the Roy H. Park School of Communications, gave him a reason to return to the U.S.

Lynch heard about Isakov through a member of the Park School Foundation Board and thought he would be a prime candidate for the year-long Scholar in Residence program.

"[He] has a global perspective students don't usually have," Lynch said. "Sometimes we become complacent about free speech rights in America and [he] has dealt with that issue."

Isakov and Lyudmila, now his wife, packed up their lives and moved to Ithaca in August.

"I felt like I had the practical expe-

rience and if I kept doing it, I would either be killed, go crazy or be an alcoholic," he said.

McGrath said Isakov's sarcasm and optimistic attitude make his classes not only enjoyable, but leave most feeling inspired to be journalists.

"We get beat down by how hard the profession is to break into, but [Isakov] always brings me back up," McGrath said. "He reminds me that journalism is important and we can do things to change the world."

Lynch said the school is in the process of finalizing plans to bring Isakov back for another year.

After a life of hardship, Isakov said he's glad he found a job he truly loves.

"After this experience here, teaching is something I want to be doing in 10, 20 and 30 years," Isakov said. "I will never get tired of it."

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Alumnus to deliver lecture about careers in medicine

Don Bertolini '71 will give a presentation titled "Putting Science to Work: A Career in the Pharmaceutical Industry" at 4 p.m. today in the Center for Natural Sciences room 112 as part of the biology department's year-long lecture series.

Bertolini, an executive at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, will be discussing obesity and how modern medicine can aid those with the disease.

News Editor Kathy Laluk spoke with Bertolini about his career, his time at the college and the changing role of the pharmaceutical industry.

Kathy Laluk: What kind of experience have you had in the pharmaceutical industry?

Don Bertolini: I've done a wide variety of things in the pharmaceutical industry. I worked a little bit in biotech[nology] for about four years, and then I went to major pharmaceuticals in what's considered discovery research, which [entails] basic science research and screening of drugs. About five years ago, I shifted from discovery research into clinical research.

KL: What do you plan to address in your presentation at the college?

DB: I'm going to be talking about some of my recent work. Right now, I'm basically responsible for obesity clinical research. Obesity is the current epidemic. ... Obesity is a major problem within the United States and it's getting worse in the rest of the world as well. People think obesity is just when someone overeats and it's no big deal, but it can lead to diabetes, and it can lead to heart disease, and it can lead to kidney failure and all these other complications. ... It's a very, very dangerous

disease that most people don't even think of as a disease. So what I'm doing is trying to come up with compounds that will not necessarily get rid of obesity but [instead] will help those who want to lose the weight do so.

KL: How would you say the pharmaceutical industry has changed over the past decade or so?

DB: It's changed significantly. Regulation has definitely gotten much stronger ... we know a lot more than we did several years ago — clinical and discovery research have definitely helped with that. We have a lot more information and technology but that often complicates matters.

KL: What kind of advice would you give to students interested in a career in this field of work?

DB: I think if you're interested in a career path in biology, you really need to discover what area within the field that you really want to focus on because it's such a broad category. In biology, you can be a botanist or you can be a molecular biologist, you know, even though those two things are so incredibly different from one another. You have to kind of step back and take a look at everything and then decide where you're going. And then you can really focus on the kinds of things you want to study and where you want to go in the future. It takes a little bit of conscious effort on your part.

KL: Why did you decide to come back to your Alma mater?

DB: I love coming back to Ithaca. The town, the college, everything is just so great.



Lending a helping hand

Junior Collin Meadow sweeps a path of brush along the walking trail behind Longview, an Ithacare residential living community, on Sunday afternoon. About 20 students helped clean the trail as part of their service learning project for their Leisure and Aging class.

CONNOR GLEASON/THE ITHACAN



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THE ITHACAN

April 2008

To All Ithaca College Students:

With the end of the academic year fast approaching, we wanted to remind all Ithaca College students to act responsibly and be safe. In particular, for those students who live off-campus in the Ithaca community or attend gatherings off-campus, we ask for your cooperation in insuring that a respectful and civil atmosphere is maintained and that the rights of our neighbors are not violated.

In particular, we want to warn you about participating in partying and disruptive behavior on or around Prospect Street on the last day of classes at Ithaca College. In recent years, this gathering has resulted in excessive noise, underage drinking, and various violations of local laws and ordinances. South Hill residents have been very clear that this event has caused serious disruptions in the local neighborhood and damage to personal property. This year, the Ithaca Police Department and the Sheriff's Office, will have a "zero tolerance" policy in effect and will be arresting those participants who violate the law. This is a serious matter, and in order to avoid legal problems and fines for yourself or student residents of the South Hill neighborhood, we urge you not to participate in this non-sanctioned event.

In addition, please be aware that the City and the Town of Ithaca have noise ordinances with strict sanctions that apply at any and all times. The Ithaca Police Department and the Sheriff's Office plan to vigorously enforce all local laws and ordinances, particularly all alcohol laws including those related to underage drinking and open containers on and around the last day of classes and finals week. Please keep these efforts in mind as you make safe and good decisions.

Representatives from the South Hill Civic Association, Neighbors of Ithaca College, Ithaca Police Department, Sheriff's Office, the Town of Ithaca, City Council, and Ithaca College, including student representatives from the Student Government Association, have been working hard to create strong campus/community relations and a positive off-campus living environment for everyone. Please cooperate, be safe and make good decisions.

We would also like to invite you to our traditional celebration for the last Friday of classes – IC Kicks Back. As always, this will be a fun and relaxing experience where you and your friends can create great memories. Besides the free food, a DJ, and inflatable games you can expect a variety of entertaining activities courtesy of IC After Dark and other student organizations. IC Kicks Back will be held on Friday, May 2nd from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Campus Center Quad. Look for advertisements about the event. Don't miss out on this fabulous tradition!

Best wishes for a safe end of the semester.

Sincerely,
Brian McAree
Vice President
Student Affairs and Campus Life

Aaron Bloom
President

Public Safety Incident Log

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM
MARCH 28 TO MARCH 29

MARCH 28			
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY LOCATION: All Other SUMMARY: Caller reported a lost intoxicated person. Incident was referred to Tompkins County Sheriff's Office. Investigation pending. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.	for open container of alcohol in public area and underage possession of alcohol. Patrol Officer Mike Hall.	son attempted to steal a picture frame containing college medallion. In addition, two other frames were tampered with. Investigation pending. Sergeant Ronald Hart.	UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL LOCATION: L-Lot SUMMARY: One person judicially referred for underage possession of alcohol. Security Officer Wendy Lewis.
FOUND PROPERTY LOCATION: Terrace 12 SUMMARY: Pocket knife found and turned over to Public Safety. Unknown owner.	DISRUPTIVE/EXCESSIVE NOISE LOCATION: Circle Apartment 8 SUMMARY: Residents judicially referred for noise. Sergeant Ronald Hart.	CASE STATUS CHANGE LOCATION: J-Lot SUMMARY: Officer reported intoxicated person. Person located, transported to the Health Center and judicially referred for irresponsible use of alcohol. Master Patrol Officer Bruce Holmstock.	UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA LOCATION: West Tower SUMMARY: Three people judicially referred for possession of marijuana. Patrol Officer Mike Hall.
MARCH 29			
OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL LOCATION: Terraces SUMMARY: Two people judicially referred	UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA LOCATION: Circle Apartment 8 SUMMARY: Two people judicially referred for possession of marijuana, excessive noise and underage possession of alcohol. Patrol Officer Mike Hall.	DISRUPTIVE/EXCESSIVE NOISE LOCATION: Circle Apartment 8 SUMMARY: Officers reported excessive noise. Resident judicially referred for noise and failure to comply. Patrol Officer Jeffrey Austin.	CRIMINAL MISCHIEF LOCATION: West Tower SUMMARY: Officer reported unknown person damaged furniture and a wall. Investigation pending. Patrol Officer James Landon.
LARCENY LOCATION: Whalen Center for Music SUMMARY: Officer reported unknown per-	IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL LOCATION: East Tower SUMMARY: One person transported to the Health Center and judicially referred for irresponsible use of alcohol. Patrol Officer James Landon.	<div>KEY</div> <div>CMC – Cayuga Medical Center CCV – College Code Violation DWI – Driving while intoxicated IFD – Ithaca Fire Department IPD – Ithaca Police Department MVA – Motor vehicle accident RA – Resident assistant SASP – Student Auxiliary Safety Patrol V&T – Vehicle and Transportation</div>	



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EDITORIALS

TURN APOLOGIES INTO ACTION

The Ithaca City School District's formal apology to Amelia Kearney should be a first step toward change

On the surface, Ithaca is an open-minded and progressive community. The city has been hailed as one of the country's most enlightened towns, one of its smartest towns, one of its most secure small towns. But beneath this rosy exterior of textbooks and tree hugging, racism still exists, and it has been most painfully obvious in the Ithaca City School District.

Last week, a case that rightfully enraged the community was brought close to its end with a judge's recommendation that the Ithaca City School District should pay Amelia Kearney and her daughter Epiphany \$1 million for their pain and suffering.

Kearney, a 37-year-old Ithaca College student and single mother, is a woman who fought for what she believed was right, brought to light a serious issue that's lurked in Ithaca's shadows for far too long. Certainly, some may argue that \$1 million is an excessive sum to pay as compensation — but it sends a clear message that these sort of racial strains will not be tolerated in our community.

This racial divide at Ithaca High School has existed for far longer than the two years it's taken for Amelia Kearney's case to finally be reconciled. At the high school, where students from working-class families, students whose parents are college professors and others who come from neighboring rural farms converge, the clashing demographics have long agitated racial tensions, and Epiphany Kearney is, sadly, just one of many victims of this struggle.

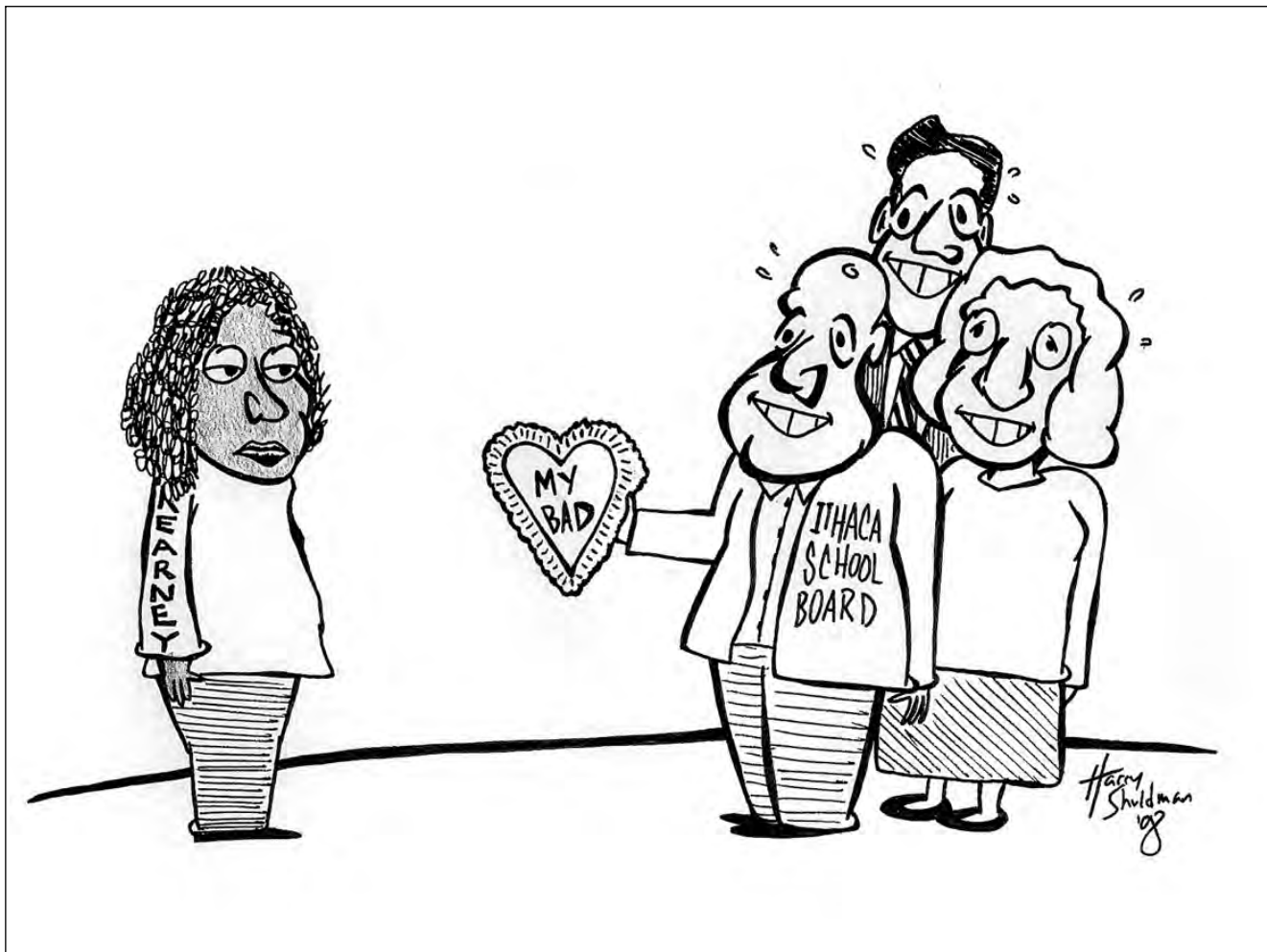
This week's apology and recognition of the need for meaningful change by the Ithaca City School Board to Amelia and Epiphany is a step in the right direction toward unifying divides within the city. The college and its community should be proud to have Amelia as one of its students — there are few words that can aptly praise her strength and perseverance.

But after she graduates in May, Amelia will no longer remain in Ithaca. The ordeal at Ithaca High School has prompted the Kearneys to leave the city, which leaves us with a major defeat. It is a shame to be losing a family which has — hopefully — steered these long-lasting tensions toward their end.

It's now time for Ithaca to take its reputation as a progressive place and set an example for other tension-riddled communities to follow.

Ithaca College itself could have taken greater measure to support Kearney's cause more directly and with greater strength. Given that the institution claims to be committed to promoting diversity and ending racial tensions, it's unfortunate that we heard no response from college administrators. Three years and one week ago, when racial epithets were found scrawled on dormitory walls and a student was victimized by racist remarks, President Peggy R. Williams stood in front of the campus and declared war on the racist perpetrators. But there has been no outcry for Epiphany, the daughter of an Ithaca College student. It seems the college's commitment to promoting racial unity is rather selective. Might the reaction have been different if it was a professor's daughter who had been the victim of repeated racism? Might it have been different if it was Amelia herself who was persecuted?

The Ithaca School Board should have responded and acted earlier, but their admission and apology is a step in the right direction, and they should now take this opportunity to be proactive and take concrete and lasting action before they are likely compelled to do so by the Division of Human Rights. Now is the time to act.



YOUR LETTERS

Track captain deserves praise

With all due respect to athletes you have covered in your April 17 edition, I feel you have made a tremendous oversight that needs to be brought to your attention. Junior Track Captain Corey Peterman recently broke the school record in javelin, qualified for ECACs and Nationals and proceeded to capture the Empire 8 athlete of the week title 2 consecutive weeks in a row and has received zero attention from the Ithaca. He does all this and gets nothing? He's having the best season of his athletic career and its going completely unnoticed by his own school. I have to say the paper has really slighted

him with this oversight. Honestly, in all seriousness, how could the school paper completely overlook his recent performances and record setting throw? Corey Peterman makes history for the school and it goes completely ignored, I find this to be absolutely in excusable. I have to say as much as I enjoyed reading about our other athletes' fine performances, I feel when someone proceeds to demolish a school record, qualify to compete on a national level and is honored twice by his conference for his performances, they just might be deserving of a hint of acknowledgement by his own school paper. If breaking a school record doesn't get an

athlete in the paper, what does?

DAN HIRSCH '10

LETTER POLICY

The Ithacan welcomes correspondence from all readers. Please include your name, graduation year, organizational or college title/position and phone number. Letters must be 250 words or less. The Ithacan reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity and taste. All letters must be received by 5 p.m. the Monday before publication. All letters must be signed, submitted in writing and either e-mailed to ithacan@ithaca.edu or delivered to Park 269.



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GUEST COMMENTARY

Cheap eats are not worth the cost of health

In his book “Hungry Planet,” photographer Peter Menzel captured Cairo, Egypt’s Ahmed family surrounded by their weekly groceries: fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, meats and a handful of packaged items. The image is likely an odd one to most American eyes and Menzel’s photograph of a family in the United States points to a reason why. The bulk of weekly nutrition for the Revis family from the U.S. comes from boxes and plastic-wrapped parcels. Fruits and vegetables barely make an appearance.

According to the USDA and UN/FAO reports, households in lower-income countries spend as much as 50 percent of the family budget on food. But in higher-income countries like the United States, as little as 13 percent of the household income is earmarked for food. At first glance, this sounds like a good bottom line, but what is the true cost of cheap eats?

A trip to the grocery store, mini-mart, shopping mall or the briefest encounter with food advertising quickly reveals that we are surrounded by fat, salt and sugar laden “food-flavored” items. They’re ubiquitous, “convenient” and cheap — and exactly the foods any nutritionist would tell you not to eat. Ingesting more processed and refined goods can make you sick — that’s a fact. According to the American Institute of Cancer Research, diet now trumps smoking as contributing to most cases of cancer. As multi-nationals like Coca-Cola, Kraft and McDonald’s vie for global food dollars, cholesterol levels and cancer rates around the world are on the rise.

When the Ahmeds in Cairo eat their fresh vegetables, whole grains and fruits, they’re getting hundreds of nutrients — like plant-based antioxidants, vitamins, minerals and fiber — that protect them from illness. The Revis family, on the other hand, is a nutritional train-wreck.

The Ahmeds’ diet is “plant-based.” For them, meat may not be as cheap as in the U.S., so they most likely eat less of it. That’s a good thing. People in many parts of the world still rely on “natural” methods of raising animals for food: cows grazing in the pasture, chickens scratching in the yard — genteel images that we associate with Old MacDonald’s farm. But in the West,



Lapp says the convenience and cheap prices of processed foods are not worth the toll they take on consumer health. By choosing healthy foods, we can make a political statement and live more healthily. MAX STEINMETZ/THE ITHACAN

since the 1940s small-scale animal husbandry has been replaced by factory farming, a method of food production that places profit above all else.

Technologies used in factory farming allow producers to pass cost savings in production on to consumers. However, these costs are cut at great expense to animal welfare and the environment. Animals are kept in close confines, deprived of sunlight, fresh air and even room to turn around. They’re quickly fattened on diets of grains and animal byproducts that make them sick. Producers rely on pharmaceuticals to mitigate illness that the animals’ cramped conditions and poor treatment bring about. In fact, animal excrement must now be treated as toxic waste, as it poisons waterways and air quality. Because these commodities are cheap, people tend to eat more, increasing their risk of disease.

But that’s OK, right? Less money spent on food means more money for “discretionary goods,” like iPods, cars, new shoes and other blingy things. Never mind the hidden costs of

cheap food, which affect the health of humans, animals and ecosystems.

It’s easy to make things better, so why don’t we? Learn about a plant-based diet at AICR.org. If you eat less meat, you can afford to buy the better quality organic, free-range or pasture-raised products. Get educated on how your food choices have wider social and environmental impacts (www.ifpri.org). Be a “food citizen” and voice your opinion to politicians and purveyors (centerforfoodsafety.org). Learn where food comes from and how it’s produced. Shop the Farmer’s Market and get to know the people who grow and raise food. Value good, quality food. Money talks, and consumer behaviors can send a strong message to food industries. It may require shifting some priorities (fewer blingy things?), but if health and well-being aren’t worth it, then what is?

JULIA LAPP is an assistant professor of health promotion and physical education. E-mail her at jlapp@ithaca.edu. Wendy Hankle contributed to this piece.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Friends of the Library book sale to open on Saturday

Spring is here in Ithaca, and this year’s Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale begins on Saturday. Over a quarter of a million items will be for sale at the big green building on Esty Street over the next three weekends: April 26-28, May 3-5 and May 10-13.

The sale began in 1948 as a once-a-year fall sale. Eventually, the donations outgrew the original space, and, 15 or so years ago, the Friends acquired the empty warehouse on Esty Street. Improvements have been made to the building, making it possible for volunteers to accept and sort books for the sale all year long. The number of items donated makes a twice-yearly sale necessary.

The spring sale is now as big an event as the justly famous fall sale, which has long been considered one of the top three volunteer sales in the country. For a first time visitor, the sight of an entire warehouse filled with tables and bookcases packed with books, records, videos, cassettes, compact discs, games, puzzles, maps, magazines and more, is truly impressive. Even seasoned volunteers are amazed. Every item has been carefully sorted for the convenience of eager buyers.

Everyone who enters the sale receives a map of the premises showing where each category is located. The day’s prices are displayed on



The Friends of the Library Book Sale, held twice each year, is the third largest sale of its kind in the country. The spring sale opens on Saturday. COURTESY OF SARAH HATCHER

large posters on the walls and on the back of the map. Prices decrease each day until the final Monday of the sale when all items are just 10 cents! The last day of the sale, May 13, is known as Bag Day, and everything that can fit into a plastic grocery bag is \$1. Bags are available that day from noon to 8 p.m. and there is no limit on bags.

Books are available in subjects ranging from anthropology to travel to fiction. Fiction is separated into sections including

science fiction/fantasy, mystery and novels, which are divided into pre-20th century, hard cover, trade (large) paperback and mass market paperback. A large and well-sorted area is devoted to children’s books, further subdivided by nonfiction subject matter, age category and fiction type. I’m always delighted and encouraged to see children pleased with their new books.

The vinyl record collection (located near the music and sheet music sections) is sorted according

to genre and artists or composers within genre. My favorite is the classical section, including boxed operas. This year there is a large collection of books related to jazz as well as many jazz records. There are other types of materials available, including games and puzzles, graphic novels, computer software and magazines.

The book sale building is located on Esty Street, between the Ithaca Bakery (at Court and Meadow) and Purity Ice Cream (at Cascadilla and Meadow), a short walk from the Short Line bus station across from Greenstar. Other than specials and recent textbooks, all items are priced as either A, B, C or D. A (\$4.50 the first day) includes hardcover and trade paperback books, B includes puzzles and games, C includes mass market paperbacks and single disc records and D (\$1 the first day) includes cassettes and sheet music. Children’s books are priced as B or D.

The sale runs from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day, except on Saturday, when it runs from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on the final Tuesday, when it is open from noon to 8 p.m.

SUNNY GOODING has volunteered at the Friends of the Library Book Sale for the past three years.



Just trust me, one more time

I’ve been writing on this page for just about two years now, and under four different editors I feel as though I’ve had four distinctly different columns. But I’ve always felt that if there was one underlying theme to “Just Trust Me,” then it was to get people thinking. Whether I made you laugh or — quite intentionally — tried to make you angry, my goal hasn’t been to make you agree or disagree with what I’ve had to say; rather, it’s been to stir the pot and see people grapple with ideas they normally wouldn’t.

This being my last column, I have to say that the biggest problem humanity faces isn’t that people are thinking the wrong things — it’s that they aren’t thinking at all. And even during those oh-so-rare moments when it does happen, it can hardly be called productive thought, because we screw it up by doing it the wrong way.

To start, we have to look at the facts and then form our opinions — not the other way around. I’ve seen too many people with too much raw intellect squander it by not being able to seriously consider those facts that don’t support their personal feelings. Unfortunately, it goes farther than simply dismissing facts, because many seem to actively avoid being exposed to contrary ideas in the first place.

We listen to the lecturers whose opinions we already agree with and avoid the news channels that tells us things we don’t like. To act in such a manner — to ignore or avoid the strengths of an opponent’s opinions and the flaws in your own — weakens the entire exchange of ideas and ultimately the quality of our thoughts.

With facts firmly in hand, we then need to seriously examine those ideas and conclusions that can be deemed self-serving. Comfortable ideas that cast us in a favorable light are not necessarily wrong, but chances are there’s only a nugget of truth in there that’s surrounded by more than its fair share of bull. Simply put, it’s easy to accept comfortable ideas despite them being flawed and it’s hard to accept the inconvenient ones no matter how meticulous their reasoning.

In the end, it is the action of a childish mind to ignore facts that we don’t like and to cling to ideologies that offer us comfort rather than truth. The amount we think and the way we go about it affects how each and every one of us sees the world and why we make the decisions that we do. The lesson is that we can’t ever stop thinking and we have to do it harder than anything else we do in life.

Even if you never have before, just trust me on this one.

ROB GRIFFIN is a senior politics major. E-mail him at rgriff11@ithaca.edu.

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BY ERICA R. HENDRY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

He's coaching her above the groove of a steady bass line, watching as her fingers struggle to hit the changing chords he calls out to her.

"A flat. Now C. Now E flat," he says, until she hits her stride. With a smile, Steve Brown lets his body loose behind the keyboard, toes tapping, elbows dangling, the mess of white hair and his head swinging easily in time with his fingers and the keyboard under them.

"That a girl — you're talkin' to me now," he says with a smile as she rolls through the piece. "That's the secret, man."

It's Friday afternoon, one of the first days above 60 degree all semester, but Brown's students still show up to his Jazz Piano II class to play and hear him talk about the blues, local musicians and the "phantom guitarist" whose music hung over the quad that morning, though students told Brown the player had yet to be seen.

When Brown began teaching at the college in 1968, jazz "didn't belong" in conservative music schools like Ithaca College, something he also encountered as a student in the early '60s. Signs were scotch taped to pianos in the School of Music when he was a student and until shortly after he began teaching they read "No playing of jazz on this piano," he said.

"It was a very conservative school when I

got here — there was a very strong anti-jazz sentiment," he said. "It took me a while to convince everybody it was worthwhile."

Forty years later, Brown is preparing to leave the program most call his creation — a program that has grown to include about 15 full-time students but educates hundreds more and has produced dozens of successful jazz instrumentalists and vocalists.

In the beginning, he was a pioneer, though he'll say the college's program was "late" in comparison to the first jazz program at University of North Texas in Denton, which began in the late 1940s and '50s, and the programs at Indiana University and the University of Miami at Florida that followed.

"I was basically hired to teach anything but jazz," he said. He was an "auxiliary" teacher, teaching percussion, music appreciation and theory. Eventually he began to introduce jazz courses into the curriculum — including a survey of jazz history course, which he still teaches today.

An improvisation class followed and a jazz piano class after that, until he had built a core of students strong enough to create a jazz program of his own, one that continues to be accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.

Through three college presidents and four deans, Brown has been a one-man band, the only jazz studies professor in the program's existence. During any given day, he'll teach a piano class, an arranging class, a jazz history course and a classical guitar student. He just got back

from a music festival in Owego. But it's all right, as long as he keeps up with his schedule.

"That is one of the advantages of the job — I never get bored. There's such a great variety to what I do, it's a challenge to make sure that I remember where to go," he says as he laughs.

The program is still small but large in terms of what Brown can manage. While his budget is low, he said the college recognizes the importance of jazz and apparently, students do, too. The vast majority of students in his classes are music education majors.

"I love it — they're going out into the schools to keep music alive, to make sure it carries into the future," he said.

One of those students was Lauri Robinson-Keegan, lecturer of music performance, a student of Brown's in the early '80s and now Brown's "ally" in the program. Cookie, as he calls her, teaches vocal jazz and Jazz Improvi-

sation I. She said it was her mentor's ability to treat her as a musician, instead of "that chick vocalist," that set him apart from other teachers. Brown has also influenced the way

See **BROWN**, page 21



Top: Steve Brown, professor of music performance, plays piano during Jazz Piano II last Friday in the School of Music. Brown will retire next month after teaching at the college for 40 years. Right: Brown rehearses with one of his jazz workshops before their concert April 11 in Ford Hall. Brown graduated from Ithaca College in 1964 and began teaching here four years later.

MAX STEINMETZ/THE ITHACAN

Spotlight

Because the world is a funny place

A beautiful princess, a lavish castle and a three-headed dragon aren't exactly things you'd find in Ithaca, N.Y., but that didn't stop ABC Family from using our little college town as the setting of its newest original movie, "Princess." Staff Writer Andy Swift takes a critical eye to the film, particularly noting the hilarious differences between the real Ithaca and the one onscreen.

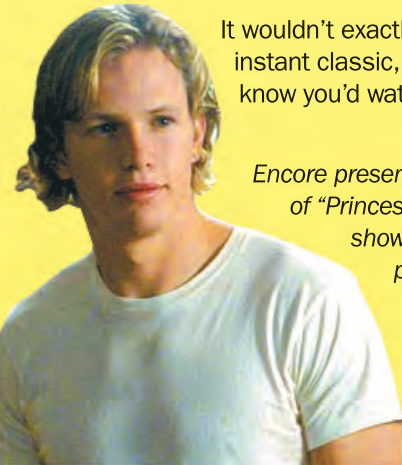
The opening shot finds a sad princess (**NORA ZEHEHNER**) looking out longingly from a window in her outlandish stone castle — that's your first clue that very little research went into choosing the setting — and as the camera moves away from the castle, we see a bustling metropolitan city just beyond the treetops. Again: what?

We eventually learn the young woman in the castle is an eccentric local legend named Princess Ithaca, a title she came up with herself. Entertainment Weekly poked fun at the name in its April 18 issue, describing the film as "the modern fairy tale of Princess Ithaca. They'd have named her Princess Utica, but that just sounds dumb."

Speaking of things that sound dumb, the princess hosts a black tie charity ball — because those are apparently commonplace in ABC Family's Ithaca. The princess does, however, meet a struggling artist named William (**KIP PARDUE**), so at least the film has one similarity to Ithaca.

William discovers the princess is a "healer" and is responsible for the safety of the mythological creatures that live at her castle. Absurdity and bad CGI effects ensue.

Obviously this is completely ridiculous, but it makes you wonder: How would a fairytale in Ithaca actually play out? Perhaps it would be the story of a beautiful Princess who finds her kingdom in danger after the arrival of an army of conservative Republicans. In order to gain enough power to save Ithaca from certain doom, she must journey to the evil fortress known as Wal-Mart and drink deeply from the magical Jug of Cortaca.



It wouldn't exactly be an instant classic, but you know you'd watch it.

Encore presentations of "Princess" will be shown at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturday on ABC Family.



Rock like a warlock

From left, Mike Demmy and Matty Greco of The Chocolate Frogs participated in the Wizard Rock showcase Sunday in IC Square. TAYLOR MCINTYRE/THE ITHACAN

wtf

Don't you just hate it when your cat — or small dog for that matter — types by walking across the keyboard? Well now they can be close without getting in the way. Just add a Kitt-In Box to your desk! The people at www.therefinedefeline.com, who make "cat furniture with style," are marketing a cushioned shelf that attaches to desks for pets to sit on. The boxes are available in three different woods and support even the beastliest of cats at up to 20 lbs.

— Jamie Saine




RIP

DANNY FEDERICI (E STREET BAND)
1950-2008

The Hammond B3 organ is silent tonight. "The Minister of Mystery," Dan Federici, organist, accordion and occasional glockenspiel player for Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, died last Thursday. Federici, an original E Streeter, played his last full concert in Boston in November and returned for portions of a set in Indianapolis in March. Federici passed away just a month later, succumbing to a three-year battle with melanoma. He is survived by his two adopted daughters and countless rocking organ riffs. Throw on "Streets of Fire" and reflect on the glory days of rock 'n' roll, because another piece is gone forever.


— Harry Shuldman



laughtrack

"If she was really pro-gun, Bill would be dead."

David Letterman on Hillary Clinton during his show Tuesday.



hot dates

thursday

The Felice Brothers will perform at 8 p.m. at Castaways, 413 Taughannock Blvd. \$10.

Rebel Jelly will perform at 10 p.m. at The Nines, 311 College Ave. \$5.

friday

Long John & The Tights will perform at 5:30 p.m. at Felicia's Atomic Lounge, 508 W. State St. Admission is free.

Jimkata will perform at 9 p.m. at The Haunt, 702 Willow Ave. \$5.

Mike Hensen will perform at 10 p.m. at The ABC Café, 308 Stewart Ave. Admission is free.

saturday

Sim Redmond Band will perform at 9 p.m. at Castaways. \$12, \$10 in advance.

Evil City String Band will perform at 10 p.m. at The Chapter House, 400 Stewart Ave. \$5.

sunday

IC Unbound will perform at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Emerson Suites. \$5, \$3 in advance.

The Small King will perform at 6 p.m. at Maxie's Supper Club, 635 W. State St. Admission is free.

Rachael Sage will perform at 7 p.m. at Felicia's Atomic Lounge. Admission is free.

tuesday

Toots and the Maytals will perform at 8 p.m. at The Haunt. \$20.

wednesday

Cover Africa Benefit will be held at 10 p.m. at The Nines. \$5.

Ithaca College's first Mr. Ithaca hits the music scene

BY RYAN BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

Though he graduated with a philosophy degree, Paul Canetti '05 always knew he wanted to be a musician.

"As soon as I could talk I was singing," Canetti said. "I've always been performing in one way or another."

Canetti began playing piano in the third grade and was actively involved in choral, theater and a cappella groups in high school.

When he came to Ithaca College, Canetti joined the all male a cappella group, Ithacappella. But he yearned for a more rock-oriented group, so he and a few friends formed co-ed VoiceStream in 2002.

"I was used to rock music a cappella," Canetti said. "I'm not a shirt and tie kind of guy."

Marissa DeVito '03 helped Canetti create VoiceStream. DeVito, Canetti and the other founding members didn't want to be a normal a cappella group, and other students agreed. More than 80 people showed up for VoiceStream's first auditions. The group now has 17 members.

In addition to forming one of the college's three well known a cappella groups, Canetti was generally popular around campus.

"Paul was voted Mr. Ithaca," DeVito said. "That pretty much says it all."

Canetti said his Mr. Ithaca was unexpected. Being crowned the first Mr. Ithaca gave him the chance to meet people in his class he wouldn't have known otherwise, he said.

"It was really fun," said Canetti. "I got to wear a Burger King crown to the bars afterwards."



Paul Canetti '05 recently released his debut full-length album, "Cycles," and will be performing in Ithaca on Saturday. While at Ithaca College, Canetti helped found VoiceStream and was crowned the college's first Mr. Ithaca.

COURTESY OF PAUL CANETTI

Canetti started as an exploratory major but later decided to major in philosophy. Rick Kaufman, professor and chair of philosophy and religion, said Canetti was one of the best students he has ever had. Kaufman said Canetti was bright and "a great deal of fun."

"He was excellent at dreaming up all kinds of strange possibili-

ties, but he always used them to make a significant philosophical point," Kaufman said.

Canetti said his plan was always to pursue a career in music, but he chose to major in philosophy because he wanted music to remain fun.

"I didn't want music to be my homework," he said.

Though Canetti formed a band

with friends during college, after graduation he decided on a solo career. "Cycles," released this year on Canetti's own label, L4 Records, is Canetti's debut full-length CD. "Cycles" is a semi-autobiography album that tells the story of a relationship from beginning to end and the possibility for future love.

"I didn't want to hit people with

a concept album, but the [CD] does tell a story over the 13 tracks," Canetti said. "All life is circular."

Canetti is also a featured artist on DeVito's Umixit software. The program, which also features Aerosmith, allows users to remix individual tracks of a song. The business collaboration allows Canetti and DeVito — both busy New Yorkers — to keep in touch and continue working in the music world with each other.

When Canetti's not making music or working at Apple, he enjoys listening to the Beatles, Radiohead and People in Planes. Canetti said artists like Michael Jackson and Ben Folds influence his music.

"I was always going to these pop, jam band shows and [a lot] of rock shows," he said. "I've always wanted a way to combine the two into a pop-jam, singer songwriter rock type of music."

Canetti still maintains ties to VoiceStream and tries to attend two of their concerts a year. He and fellow previous VoiceStream members perform solo sets at local Ithaca clubs whenever they're in town for concerts. Canetti said he revels in the chance to see what has become of his baby and the opportunity to play music with his friends again. Though he enjoys reliving the old days occasionally, Canetti said he is confident in his decision to pursue a solo career.

"I had to do it myself," Canetti said. "I know that I'm not going to quit."

Paul Canetti will perform at 10 p.m. Saturday at The Nines, 311 College Ave. \$5.

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Concert proceeds to go to downtown music charity

BY JAMIE SAINE
ACCENT EDITOR

Since most budgets for student organizations don't roll over with the academic year, the Bureau of Concerts knew it had to spend the money earned from its two nearly sold-out shows this year — or lose it. Enter Say Anything, Jedi Mind Tricks and Emerson B, the line up for this Sunday's \$5 show.

Posters for the concert went up late last week, but senior Chris Wilson, BOC executive director, said he isn't worried about the turnout.

"I know that people are talking about it; it's all over Facebook," Wilson said. "We have other colleges that are contacting us about it. We're getting e-mails everyday. We are selling tickets ... at a good rate."

The profit from the more than 2,000 seats available in the Ben Light Gymnasium won't go back to BOC, or the college for that matter. Since BOC cannot keep the money for next year, the organization decided to keep ticket prices cheap and give the proceeds to charity.

Wilson said BOC wanted to choose a charity that involved music but also wanted to keep things local. So it chose the Community School of Music and Arts in downtown Ithaca, an organization that offers year-round education in art, dance, theater, language arts and music.

Robin Tropper-Herbel, executive director of CSMA, said the school has never previously partnered with BOC, to her knowledge, and the phone call announcing the charitable intentions was completely unexpected.

"It was a really pleasant surprise. We just found out, oh, less than two weeks ago, that they had selected us to



Members of a jazz improv group rehearse downtown at the Community School for Music and Arts, which offers scholarships to community members. Proceeds from this Sunday's BOC concert will be donated to the CSMA.

COURTESY OF THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND ARTS

be the beneficiary, and we're just delighted," she said. "It sounds like a good fit with [BOC's] interest in music as well as ours."

The end-of-the-year concert was originally scheduled as an outdoor show, but circumstances forced BOC to change its plans. After securing the gym at the last minute, BOC then had to decide how to spend its money. Wilson said the organization was considering spending all the money on one large act but decided to follow a different route.

"We were looking at just one act that costs more than all the acts we have right now," Wilson said. "We

thought it would be a little bit cooler to do something for everybody and still actually end up saving some money."

So instead, BOC booked Say Anything, Jedi Mind Tricks and local act Emerson B. Say Anything will appease indie rockers, while Jedi Mind Tricks adds a heavier political hip-hop vibe to the night. To bolster Ithaca's local music scene, Wilson said Emerson B will be joined on stage by members of The Rozatones, Thousands of One, and Jsan and the Analogue Sons.

"We're trying to get people to maybe see an act that they wouldn't normally see ... if you were paying \$25," he said. "But for five bucks, you might

come and go as you please, and hopefully you'll see a band you would never normally see."

Max Bemis, singer of Say Anything, said the band has played with hip-hop groups at festivals but never as part of one show. He said he likes Jedi Mind Tricks, though.

"There should be more — ideally in the world — stuff like that ... it's not just people relegated to playing with bands that sound like them or that people think sound like them," he said.

In addition to saving money by not booking one bigger band, BOC was also able to plan an amped-up stage

show, Wilson said.

"Wait until you see the lights and the fog and everything we got going on; it's going to blow your mind," he said.

Now that the money has been spent, BOC is looking forward to raising money for the CSMA. Wilson said the bands know about the charity plan and are "completely on board."

Bemis said though the band dealt with BOC through a booking agent, it is still supportive of the charity idea.

"Obviously I think it's great," he said. "You'd have to be a crazy ... not [to]."

Tropper-Herbel said the money may go to one of the school's scholarship programs, but as long as BOC doesn't object, the donation will most likely fund general needs at CSMA.

"It benefits the school even more to keep it unrestricted," she said. "It's nice to point out that one of [our] programs is a scholarship program because it's so fundamental to our mission to make sure that we're accessible to all community members, regardless of their socio-economic background."

If Sunday's show brings in 2,000 audience members, the CSMA will receive \$10,000. Even if it doesn't hit those numbers, Wilson still feels good about the use of the show's revenue.

"We're still going to have something great to give to the CSMA," he said.

Emerson B, Jedi Mind Tricks and Say Anything will perform at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Ben Light Gymnasium. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in the Student Activities Center in Campus Center today, at a table in the North Foyer of Campus Center tomorrow or at the door Sunday.

Brown inspires generations

BROWN
FROM PAGE 17

she teaches her own classes today.

"There were many stereotypes at that time — that you [couldn't] teach jazz," she said. "Meanwhile, he and his peers were developing jazz pedagogy and trying to communicate that there is a philosophy behind it."

Part of what Robinson-Keegan said makes Brown a great instructor is his connection and involvement in the world of jazz. He's part of a family largely trained by the college, a line of Browns that began before the college moved to South Hill. His parents, Glenn Brown '36 and Marie Ward Brown '35, studied music at the school's original conservatory. His older brother, Glenn, came to study at the college and Steve followed, studying percussion and earning an undergraduate degree in music education in 1964. His younger brother, Ray, also studied at the school. His 30-year-old son, Miles, named

"He has so much knowledge — he's huge."

—PAT MURPHY, SOPHOMORE AT ITHACA COLLEGE

after Miles Davis, is pursuing a doctoral degree in jazz performance from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y.

As a teenager, Brown played with his father on television network late night shows. He was a founding player in the National Jazz Ensemble in 1976, and the list of musicians he's played with is likely pages long. He said he never counts them, but they include Chuck Israels and Jimmy Smith, Paquito D'Rivera, Bill Evans, Ray Charles. He and his brother Ray have appeared on a number of albums — both others and their own.

Brown's clear blue eyes focus on the pic-

tures around his office — some in boxes, some still on the walls — as he names the students who have gone on to be famous singers or musicians. Darmon Meader of the New York Voices. Kim Nazarian. Peter Eldridge. The Ashby brothers. Tish Rabe.

It's how Brown continues to attract big-name performers for master classes and performances with his jazz workshop bands, Robinson-Keegan said. Despite the small budget, people come because they love the way Brown teaches — his expectations, his extensive knowledge, his quiet way of pushing, still demanding but not asking more than what anyone can give.

"The only way to really learn it is to hang around musicians — and he emphasizes that," Robinson-Keegan said. "I've never seen him turn away a student who is truly interested in jazz music — ever. It may take him a while, because he's so busy, but he really goes out of his way to pursue people."

Miles Brown said he never felt pressured to study music — either at the high school level or in his career. Though he chose to study at Eastman instead of under his father at the college, Miles said learning from his father was an invaluable resource.

"He really understands what [a] student needs to develop and doesn't hesitate to tell that student [that] there shouldn't be an ego involved," he said.

Miles said he doesn't consider his father famous to the general public, but within the jazz world people know his name.

"He's had a lot of students that go through the Ithaca College program who credit him as giving [them] a good education and a thorough education, and they respect him for his ability to teach," he said.

Sophomore Pat Murphy, a jazz studies major, said Brown's experience sets him apart from other professors.



Brown conducts a rehearsal before his jazz workshop concert April 11 as guest artist Chris Persad plays a trumpet solo. Brown frequently brings famous musicians to campus.

MAX STEINMETZ/THE ITHACAN

"He has an old school style — I mean, he's been playing jazz for pretty much 50 years," Murphy said, "But he still gets you to know the real frame work of a jazz harmony and theory and how to apply the sounds."

As a native percussionist and creator of the school's classical guitar program as a graduate student in 1967, Brown has a near perfect knowledge of instruments, Murphy said, which also allows him to "really know how to rehearse a band."

"He's a composer, he's an arranger and he's a very talented musician, so really, his forte is everything," Murphy said. "He has so much knowledge — he's huge."

And it shows. At his jazz workshop concert April 11, Brown's at ease, blowing a kiss to a trumpet soloist and rocking his elbows outward in time with Murphy, who stands playing string bass beside his shoulder. Brown moves across the stage on his toes, sliding across the

wood in Ford Hall, counting and humming along with the beat.

"Now this is my favorite kind of blues," he said into a microphone to a crowd that nearly filled the auditorium.

He'll have just one more chance to lead the big band Miles says his father will miss more than anything else at the college: the Alumni Big Band Concert on Saturday — this year in honor of Brown. It will feature 32 alumni of the jazz program who will play and sing arrangements by Brown and his brother Ray. Then Brown will play commencement eve, tour Europe, meet with alumni in Spain. But ultimately he'll stay around, he said. The local music scene — it's rich.

"That's why I like this place," he told his students as they surrounded him in class last Friday morning. "There's weirdos like me and normal people like you. The blues player hidden in the vestibule — he wasn't that bad. ... It's all music, man."

Revision to amplify at Castaways album release show

BY PATRICK DOYLE
ASSISTANT ACCENT EDITOR

Before playing shows, the members of Revision load gear into their van at their Ithaca home. Then they head to the nearest restaurant, where they fill up their van — with vegetable oil.

The band met while attending Ithaca College and formed in 2001. It features John Petronzio '04 (keyboard/vocals), Nick Bullock '02 (guitar/vocals) and Devon Reehl '03 (drums).

While many of their alum have left Ithaca, the band has stayed to pursue rock and funk music. The group averages about a hundred shows a year and have opened for artists such as Derek Trucks and The Cat Empire.

On Friday, Revision will host a CD release show for its new disc, "Amplification."

The group's roots are diverse. Petronzio grew up on ragtime music. Reehl was raised by parents who traveled the country performing in Vaudeville theater. Bullock listened to The Grateful Dead before studying jazz guitar under Steve Brown, professor of music performance at Ithaca College.

"It's more about the song than it is the playing for me now," Bullock said. "I'm more interested in cool chord changes and good melodies, cool arrangements and good production than a lot of the [jam bands]."

"Amplification" finds the band striving for a poppier sound than previous efforts. The songs range from the acoustic, violin-driven "California" to the J. Geils-reminiscent "Soul System Breakdown."

The new sound comes partly from the group's lineup change. It parted ways with bassist Jason Pratt in 2006.

"The bass player wrote a lot of the material and it was kind of a G. Love type of vibe," Bullock said. "I don't think we sound anything like G. Love now. So I think we maintained a groove but kind of turned it back into more of a rock band kind of setting."

The band's sound emphasizes song structure. Since Pratt left the group, Petronzio plays



From left, John Petronzio '04, Devon Reehl '03 and Nick Bullock '02 make up rock group Revision. The band members, graduates of Ithaca College, are promoting their new disc, "Amplification." COURTESY OF REVISION

the bass lines on his keyboard.

"If you bring a group of four down to a group of three, things get tighter so there's one less thing that can be out of line," Reehl said.

The group travels regularly to live music spots such as Burlington, Vt., and Chicago, Ill., often sleeping wherever there's an available couch. Traveling time is spent listening to a wide range of artists, from Radiohead to D'Angelo.

"A lot of times we'll do different studies," Petronzio said. "When I sit with Devon up front we'll dissect grooves and why a bass player

does what he does, or why a drummer is really pulling back."

The group wrote "Amplification" during the last year and a half. It first attempted to record the disc in a cabin in Spencer, N.Y. Reehl said this failed to materialize into captivating material.

"[It] just didn't produce [a] recording that had much continuity or much of a vibe," he said. "We realized that the vibe was more important to us than anything else."

Revision returned to Ithaca and wrote the

rest of the album. It discovered producer Matthew Ellard (Billy Bragg, Wilco), who the band was drawn to after hearing his production on the The Slip's 2006 disc, "Eisenhower."

"He's British, which was instantly fun and never got old," Reehl said. "He'd just say things that were really funny."

The group spent much of last winter between shows commuting to Ellard's studio in Boston. It recorded for 30 days, including two weeks in Ellard's loft studio.

"[His] loft space studio ... was cool," Bullock said. "Kind of dingy, mice running around on the floor, water leaking from the ceiling but all this cool gear everywhere."

The album is being released independently on both CD and the more unconventional USB drive. The disc is available on the band's Web site, revisionmusic.com, and it plans to sell it on iTunes.

While the group aims to be successful, Reehl said it is reluctant to sign to a label.

"The major labels are freaking out [because] they don't know what to do now in this environment," he said. "They don't know how they're going to sell records, they don't know how they're going to make money."

At the band's Ithaca home base, a white board hangs in their practice space. It has 26 song titles, all new material, separated into musical categories. The band plans to release the songs in two EP's — a funk disc and an acoustic disc — before recording another full-length album.

"The idea is to have a wide range to show what we can do as musicians and show what we like because now's the time to do that," Reehl said.

First, though, Revision is going on tour.

"We know the road now," Petronzio said. "I trust these guys to catch me or back me up if we're in trouble. [We] spend three months of the year in the van. We're really good at it now. We've got it boiled to a science."

Revision will perform at 10 p.m. tomorrow at Castaways, 413 Taughannock Blvd. Tickets are \$7.

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Reel Big Fish hits town

After more than a decade on the road and in the studio, ska legends still love the job

Reel Big Fish has been on the scene since the early 1990s. With only a few original members left, the ska staples are still going strong. Accent Editor Jamie Saine spoke to trumpet player John Christianson about the band's roots and its future after Jive records.

Jamie Saine: There's a rumor that ska is dead. How are you keeping it alive?

John Christianson: There's something timeless about the Reel Big Fish, whether it's the music and or the live show that we do. There's something that resonates with all the kids that come to the shows, and anybody that comes to a Reel Big Fish show never goes away not being entertained. So I think so much of it is just the entertainment value of the band as a live show that makes a difference in peoples' lives, that's what keeps it fresh.

JS: There are people who have been listening to you for years and people who have just discovered ska. How do you appeal to such a varied crowd?

JC: Everybody likes to have a good time, and I think we're one of those bands that can really show you a good time. Right now the music business is kind of really somber and everybody wants to be very serious and take themselves seriously and we're definitely not that. We definitely come to entertain and to make people laugh and forget about what happens to them on a daily basis. We are that breath of fresh air. I think that's part of the appeal of Reel Big Fish, why we can

get such various stages of people that come to the shows and love the band.

JS: What's it like having fans that spread across such an age range?

JC: Oh it's wonderful. My greatest compliment is when we have parents that come and bring their kids to the shows and they come up and go, 'I had no idea that you guys were so great.' They're totally astounded that we could entertain them, you know having somebody that's 45 or 50, that they could be entertained by us young whipper-snappers in our ... early 30s. It just translates across a wide variation of ages; it's awesome.

JS: You've been referred to as "a beacon of ska." What's that like?

JC: It's definitely an honor to be able to, you know, carry the torch, the Olympic torch of ska so to speak. ... A lot of our music is, you know, rock and punk and a little bit of jazz and reggae and we kind of take from all our influences, but we are definitely a band that loves traditional ska, like listening to the Skatalites or listening to the Wailers or listening to Desmond Decker. We have a thing that Aaron [Barrett] makes up on every summer tour called the reggae machine. ... It's this little speaker that's all taped up in duct tape and painted in the Jamaican flag colors and that plays nothing but reggae and traditional ska all day long. ... So we definitely are a band that knows its roots and that really appreciates those.



From left, Derek Gibbs, Ryland Steen, Aaron Barrett, John Christianson, Dan Regan and Scott Klopfenstein of Reel Big Fish will perform tonight at The Haunt. The band is currently recording on its own and is having a ball.

COURTESY OF REEL BIG FISH

JS: What was it like getting cut from your record label, Jive?

JC: It was a party. We celebrated, there were many hugs, many pats on the back. I think there may have been a cake, maybe some party favors. Jive really, they didn't know what to do with us. They, as the record labels were getting bought by this giant octopus of a business; we got shuffled lower and lower on their roster. And we were having problems contacting our A&R guy, there was no tour support, there was really no support from the label. So it was kind of a one-sided relationship. You know, we were put-

ting all this time and effort into touring and being a band and making great records, and Jive was just kind of like ignoring us. We were definitely the black sheep of their record label, so we were really happy to get released from their record contract.

JS: "Horns just make music better" — I assume you agree.

JC: I could not agree more strongly. It's such a cool thing to be a trumpet player, or be a brass player, and hear your instrument on the radio. I always used to love listening to Blood, Sweat, and Tears and Chicago and Tower of

Power ... Herb Albert, oh my gosh. My brother had the record "Rise" by Herb Albert and when I was a little kid, even before I played the trumpet, hearing the song "Rise" was ... one of the coolest things that I had ever heard.

JS: I'm sure you get this all the time but does she really have a girlfriend now?

JC: [Laughs] Yes she did. That actually happened in some strange, crazy way to Aaron Barrett.

Reel Big Fish will perform at 8 p.m. tonight at The Haunt, 702 Willow Ave. \$20.

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“ANYWHERE I LAY MY HEAD”
Scarlett Johansson

Against all odds, this title track from the actress' debut album, a collection of Tom Waits songs, is quite great.

“CALL IT A RITUAL”
Wolf Parade

Though it is great to hear from Wolf Parade's numerous side projects, this indie supergroup's own new material is head and shoulders above other endeavors.

“EVIL URGES”
My Morning Jacket

The spacey new track from these immensely popular neo-southern rock gods rests among the group's most intriguing and adventurous work.

Accent's Oldie But Goodie

“ROSTA MAN”
Vanilla Ice

Sure, “Ice Ice Baby” is a stone-cold classic, but if you want to get down with your bad self, listen to Ice's misspelled attempt at reggae, quite possibly the most awkward experimentation attempted by any artist.

COMPILED BY WILLIAM EARL

quickies



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL

“SONGS FROM THE
SPARKLE LOUNGE”
Def Leppard

Universal
The classic rock group tries to revive a career which has been dormant for quite some time.



COURTESY OF HEAR MUSIC

“THIS KIND OF LOVE”
Carly Simon
Hear Music

The legendary singer/songwriter returns on Starbucks' label with this Brazilian-themed entry.



COURTESY OF JIVE

“VYP: VOICE OF THE
YOUNG PEOPLE”
Lil' Mama
Jive

It is hard to believe that Lil' Mama has made us wait until now to deliver her solo debut since her single “Lip Gloss” hit airwaves last June, but it sure makes for an interesting sales strategy.

COMPILED BY WILLIAM EARL

‘Sarah Marshall’ pairs raunch with romance

BY MATT BIDDLE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As its advertisements promise, “Forgetting Sarah Marshall” is “from the guys who brought you ‘The 40 Year Old Virgin’ and ‘Knocked Up.’” This newest film is the heir to the Judd Apatow comedy throne; it has some big shoes to fill.

“Forgetting Sarah Marshall” — directed by Nicholas Stoller — stars Jason Segel, also the film's writer, as broken-hearted Peter Bretter. He wallows in his apartment after breaking up with his television-star girlfriend, Sarah Marshall (Kristen Bell). His sorrow turns pathetically into depression after he fails to get over her through a series of one-night-stands. So Peter heads to Hawaii to recover on the advice of his brother, Brian (Bill Hader).

Sarah has the same idea. The two accidentally meet at the Hawaiian resort moments after Peter arrives. To add to the awkwardness, Sarah has her new boyfriend in tow: lothario rocker Aldous Snow (Russell Brand).

Soon after, Peter meets Rachel (Mila Kunis), a cute front-desk clerk and perfect foil to Sarah's wannabe-movie-star attitude. Rachel, fresh off of a breakup of her own, sympathizes with Peter, helping him to relax and move forward. Segel and Kunis have on-screen chemistry from the start, and their characters' relationship is believable.

Rounding out the rest of the cast are a few Apatow film staples. Paul Rudd plays a stoner surfing instructor, while Hader attempts, to no avail, to give Peter advice through cell phone

FILM
REVIEW

“Forgetting Sarah Marshall”
Universal
Our Rating:
★★★★½



Rachel (Mila Kunis) dates Peter Bretter (Jason Segal) in the Judd Apatow comedy “Forgetting Sarah Marshall.”

COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

and video chat. “Superbad” star Jonah Hill also turns up as an obsessive waiter, sucking up to Aldous whenever he gets the opportunity.

The funniest cast member, however, is virgin newlywed Darald (Jack McBrayer), who's left agape at his bride's sexual desires until he seeks advice from Aldous — one of the film's funniest moments.

Overall, the main cast members fit into their roles effectively. Bell and Kunis — best known for their television roles on “Veronica Mars” and “That 70s Show,” respectively — play off of each other well as the two begin competing for Peter's attention. Bell nails Sarah as a smooth blend of self-superiority and vulnerability.

Brand hilariously portrays a self-absorbed British rocker whose care-

free attitude leads to further laughs. In one scene, a waiter asks if Aldous has listened to his demo. Aldous responds, “I was going to listen to that, but then I just carried on living my life.”

The movie, as with other Apatow flicks, seamlessly merges raunchy comedy with real, romantic emotions. An impromptu contest to determine who can have the loudest sex is followed by a tender, relationship-affirming moment. This duality makes the movie a success.

Still, “Forgetting Sarah Marshall” has its faults. The relationship between Aldous and Sarah is never believable and seems forced at times. It also takes time to settle into its rhythm. Some viewers may find it difficult to invest in the relationship between Peter and Sarah — which fizzles before the au-

dience has much knowledge of their history together.

Segel's writing alone makes the movie worthwhile. While the plot may seem mundane, the snappy dialogue and character development more than makes up for it. The plot's quirks are some of the best moments of the film, such as Peter penning a Dracula musical, complete with a cast of puppets. Segel doesn't shy away from anything, choosing to have his own character appear frontally nude twice.

“Forgetting Sarah Marshall” is no “Knocked Up,” but it doesn't pretend to be — it's entertaining the way it is.

“Forgetting Sarah Marshall” was written by Jason Segel and directed by Nicholas Stoller.



COURTESY OF ANTI

Man Man's joy ride

BY AARON ARM
SENIOR WRITER

If listeners aren't already in a good mood, they will be, provided they pick up “Rabbit Habits,” Man Man's latest album. Each track bubbles with speedy beats overlapped with hauntingly catchy riffs on guitar, honky tonk, marimba and sousaphone, to name a few of the band's toys.

The band accrued a strong fan base during its tour with Modest Mouse last year, and its third studio album will not disappoint followers. The experimental, carnival-like eccentricities are found in each song, such as “Easy Eats Or Dirty Doctor Galapagos,” a cross between a drinking song and a nightmare's soundtrack.

Unfortunately, the group's unrestrained nature occasionally hurts it as much as it helps. “Hurly Burly” is a pleasant surrealistic ride across a handful of instruments and motifs, until it all congeals in an ending that is more headache than head banging.

Regardless, Man Man has produced a fun approximation of its energetic live performances.

ALBUM
REVIEW

Man Man
“Rabbit Love”
Anti
Our rating:
★★★★

The Kooks refine generic sound

British quartet will have fans dancing around town

BY RYAN BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

The Kooks' first disc, “Inside In/Inside Out,” was full of fun yet generic guitar-rock saved by lead singer Luke Pritchard's high-pitched bravado. While the album had a distinct feel as a whole, the tracks tended to blend, leaving something to be desired. The band's new effort, “Konk,” fuses Brit-rock energy with a '60s pop flair. The much-matured sound of this LP shies away from any notion of a sophomore slump.

The band formed back in 2004, when the four were students in Brighton, England. They decided to channel influences from the Police, the Strokes and Funkadelic into a rousing indie-rock sound all their own.

The entire album functions as a night-out soundtrack. Each track on the disc has a distinctive feel that will keep listeners engaged and wanting to hear what comes next. The album flows from loud rock jams to soft acoustic ballads.

“Konk” opens with “See the Sun,” which begins with Pritchard luring in listeners with soft vocals. The band chimes in with '60s pop claps and a powerful, swaying guitar line.

Lead guitarist Hugh Harris sets the album apart from “Inside In/Inside Out.” He defines the gem “Mr. Maker” with a combination of soft acoustic guitars and an electric guitar line to keep the song flowing.

The group injects heartbreak into its ballads on tracks like “Love It All,” “Sway” and “One Last Time.” “Love It All” and “Sway” showcase Pritchard's pained vocals. “One Last Time,” the softest track on the disc, shines with soft drums and honest, dejected lyrics.

ALBUM
REVIEW

The Kooks
“Konk”
Astralwerks
Our rating:
★★★★

Not wanting to make a completely powerful rock album, the boys bring an acoustic sensibility to the final tracks of the disc, such as the soulful “Tick of Time,” which uses a stomp beat and echoing vocals. “All Over Town,” is beautifully soft with acoustic guitars and a fading trumpet line that serves as a close to The Kooks' night on the town.

While tracks “Always Where I Need to Be” and “Stormy Weather” show less diversity than the other songs, they do not lack passion. Both tracks have danceable beats that are playful and bubbly. They simply seem more like the constant pulse of the less-inspired “Inside In/Inside Out” and are the least memorable.

Overall, The Kooks have pulled off a disc that shows how much they have grown since their debut release. The uniqueness of the tracks and the skill of the young musicians are definitely worth a listen. Pritchard and gang set out to create a bigger sound than their first disc, and they have succeeded. “Konk” will assuredly keep rockers dancing late into the summer night.



COURTESY OF ASTRALWERKS

Theater department brings fairy tale to life

Exceptional acting and staging make ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ a success

BY BRIAN STERN
SENIOR WRITER

The clock strikes midnight and the lights dim, bathing the stage in eerie blues and greens. Smoke rises and curls in the air. With revelrous laughter and shrieks, a child’s bed comes to life, wriggling and writhing with the child still in it. A dozen fairies emerge from under the covers, as Oberon (senior Andrew Krug) and Titania (senior Celeste Sayles) battle to steal the child, and the audience, off into the adult fairy tale of a child’s dream.

This is Ithaca College’s presentation of Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” The play, under the direction of Norm Johnson, associate professor of theater arts, is set not in the city-state of Athens, but in a spirited gypsy camp near a forest, encompassed in the dream of a little girl (Nicole N. Byron) who has read too many fairy tales before bed.

The stage is beautiful in its simplicity, using only large bamboo poles against the backdrop of a translucent moon-esque sphere to convey both the forest and the gypsy camp. The lighting and sound charm the audience, but it is the elaborate costumes that give the show personality through the brilliant design and imagination of costume designer and senior Katie Delaney. The gypsies are decked in jingling bangles and tattered leather, while the fairies’ ensemble consists of frayed, dangling strips of green, brown, purple and blue cloth woven together. The distinctions of fairy royalty through peacock feathers and luminous baubles of “dew-drops” hanging from their garb are two especially nice touches.

Also impressive is the musical spin put on the show. The dances and music are entirely student composed. The music is inspired by Beirut and Gogol Bordello, two contemporary Roma



From left, senior Patrick Prudent, sophomore Parker Pogue, freshman Ben Fankhauser and senior Brian Judkins make up the band of rowdy actors in Ithaca College’s production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

COURTESY OF ITHACA COLLEGE THEATRE DEPARTMENT

gypsy bands. The performers’ hard work pays off, as the music becomes the very soul of the show.

Despite the little touches that make this production flourish, a play would be nothing without its actors, and this performance boasts excellent ones. While all of the performers are superb, a few stand out as exceptional.

Eleven-year-old Byron makes her Ithaca College debut as Samantha, the child dreamer. This fifth-grader is as versatile as she is talented. Traveling through the world of her sleeping psyche, she morphs from one role to the next: changeling child, gypsy youth and fairy nymph-in-training. Her playful and obstinate antics make her a pleasure to watch on stage.

Krug takes the stage as Oberon, commanding it, and his fairy court, with the monumental power of his presence. Krug does an amazing job of bringing the fairy king to life — his imposing expressions and gestures, including a Darth Vader

death grip, exude the confidence of his character.

The sultry and seductive Sayles proves to be Oberon’s only match as Titania, the fairy queen. Sayles has excellent on-stage chemistry with Krug, and their encounters often escalate into verbal jousting matches. Her sexually charged scenes with senior Patrick Prudent, as the “Ass” Nick Bottom, are funny, providing the show with one of its central comic subplots.

The story’s young lovers and the boisterous band of actors — both within the play and on stage — provide the show’s comic relief via physical comedy. The “cat fight” between seniors Eliza Silverman as the feisty and shrewish Hermia and Vicki Rodriguez as the lamenting and melancholy Helena, is slapstick comedy at its finest. It culminates in all four lovers rolling around on the floor, simultaneously professing their love/hatred for one another.

The band of rowdy actors sets a new standard of comedy with its wild antics and side-splitting shenanigans.

While the whole troupe must be commended on its ensemble performance, Prudent, sophomore Parker Pogue and senior Brian Judkins must be set above the rest. Prudent’s unique choice of verbal emphasis for Bottom gives new comedy to an already hysterical part. Pogue’s double acting as the “lovely” Thisbey is the epitome of physical humor, and the lively facial expressions of Judkin’s Peter Quince make him a pleasure to watch even when he isn’t speaking.

For all the talent in this exceptional production, it is the masterful performance of senior Corinne Proctor as the impish Puck that steals the show. Her quick tongue, vivacious demeanor and exaggerated boy-ness make her the production’s star. Her witty retorts and exceptional delivery make this production a must-see comic event.

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream” will be performed at 8 p.m. today, tomorrow and Saturday and at 2 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$7 for students and \$10 for general admission.

THEATER REVIEW

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Ithaca College

‘Street Kings’ entertains despite generic police plot

BY ALEXANDRA PALOMBO
STAFF WRITER

Police movies, love them or hate them, are staples in pop culture, and whether the cops are heroes or villains, they all seem to follow the same plot line. “Street Kings” adheres to the formula but manages to be a decent movie all the same.

In the film, LAPD detective Tom Ludlow (Keanu Reeves) is a broken man drinking his life away after the death of his wife. He also happens to be a dirty cop who uses whatever means necessary to solve a case.

The film begins with Ludlow as he kills a house full of criminals, shoots at the doorway to make it look as if it were self-defense and then frees two young girls trapped in a secret cell in the wall. He becomes a local hero but for the wrong reasons.

Ludlow serves under Captain Jack Wander (Forest Whitaker) until his former partner, Terrence Washington (Terry Crews), is killed. Ludlow then dedicates his time to investigating Washington’s murder and those who covered it up. Meanwhile, Captain James Biggs (Hugh Laurie) is busy looking into Ludlow’s record of persistent violence and questionable policing methods.

Reeves is his usual monotone self as his character throws back drinks and screams to convey his pain over his wife’s murder. Ludlow often goes



Keanu Reeves plays Tom Ludlow, a crooked LAPD detective whose actions often turn messy.

COURTESY OF REGENCY ENTERPRISES

looking for fights, defying orders and provoking criminals. He clashes with fellow police officers and hounds criminals, generally getting the job done but with grisly results.

The supporting actors are the ones to watch. Whitaker fares better than Reeves. His

character, Captain Wander, mangles evidence, defends himself and his squad with rabid eyes and then goes home to his family at night. Even as he spars with fellow officers he retains a level of likability.

Laurie quietly chews up the scenery as the con-niving investigator Captain Biggs. He’s a policeman who Ludlow describes as “a cop who burns cops.” He insults Wander when his own morals are questioned and keeps pressuring the LAPD to come clean. Laurie does a great job at making the audience love to hate his character. He’s a weasel, though almost likeable as he digs into every aspect of Ludlow’s infamous career.

At times the movie tries too hard to be gritty. Cursing is as prevalent as gun fighting. Shaky, grainy camera work is the norm, and a good part of the movie is action sequence-style beatings.

Despite these downfalls, the film has a few ironic and funny moments. The banter between the cops at the beginning of the movie as they ponder the validity of shooting a man while taking care of personal business is undoubtedly funny, and at one point Ludlow chases a suspect through a home as a family is watching the finale of “Flavor of Love.”

“Street Kings” is sometimes predictable, and though its ending is more cynical in its view of police morals than the rest of the film, it still manages to entertain.

“Street Kings” was written by James Ellroy and Kurt Wimmer and directed by David Ayer.

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21 ★★

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88 MINUTES

11:45 a.m., 2:25 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:35 p.m., 10:15 p.m.

BABY MAMA

11:40 a.m., 2:35 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 7:55 p.m., 10:20 p.m.

DECEPTION

12:50 p.m., 3:50 p.m., 7:05 p.m., 9:50 p.m., 12:30 a.m.

DR. SEUSS’ HORTON HEARS A WHO!

★★½
11:30 a.m., 2:05 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

EXPULSED: NO INTELLIGENCE ALLOWED

10 p.m., 8:15 p.m., 10:35 p.m.

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

3:40 p.m., 4:40 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 10 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL

★★★½
2:55 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8:05 p.m., 10:40 p.m.

HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY

9:40 p.m., 10:10 p.m., 12:10 a.m.

PROM NIGHT

5:50 p.m., 8:35 p.m., 10:50 p.m.

SMART PEOPLE

8:25 p.m., 10:45 p.m., 9:20 p.m.

STREET KINGS ★★

9:20 p.m.

OUR RATINGS

Excellent ★★★★★
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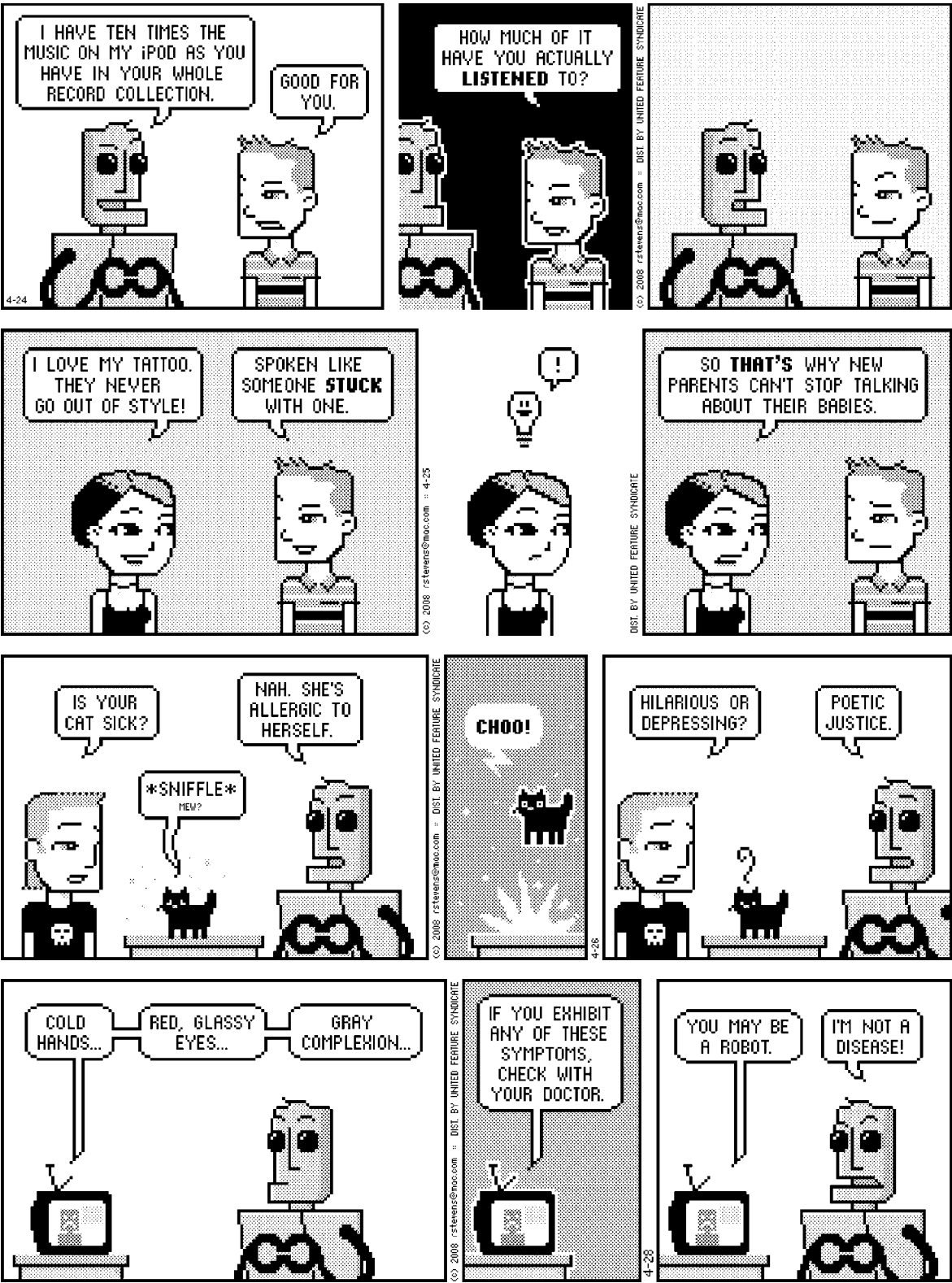
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sudoku

Easy

4	2			9	1			7
9	1		4	3				
	3	8	6			4		
	4	9	8		5	7		2
	6		9				3	4
1								9
7							2	5
		3	1				7	8

Medium

2			7					3
		8						7
	1	6		9				2
1				8				
9	3		1			8	7	
								5
5							3	
	4			5				
			9	1	8			

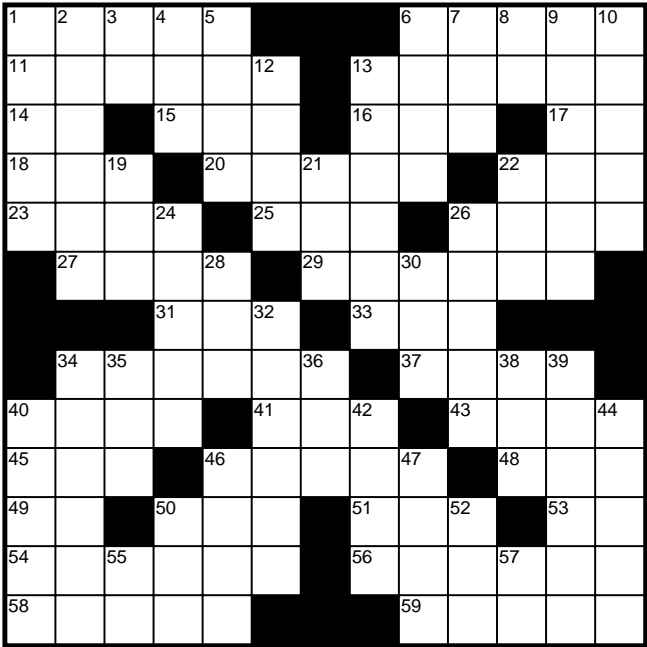
answers to last week's sudoku

Medium

3	6	9	8	4	7	5	1	2
1	7	5	3	2	9	6	8	4
8	2	4	1	6	5	9	7	3
7	3	1	5	8	2	4	9	6
4	9	8	6	3	1	7	2	5
2	5	6	9	7	4	8	3	1
9	1	7	2	5	6	3	4	8
5	8	2	4	9	3	1	6	7
6	4	3	7	1	8	2	5	9

Very Hard

8	3	4	7	6	2	5	1	9
7	2	5	3	1	9	6	4	8
6	9	1	4	8	5	7	3	2
4	8	6	5	3	7	2	9	1
1	7	2	9	4	6	8	5	3
9	5	3	1	2	8	4	7	6
3	6	7	8	9	4	1	2	5
5	1	8	2	7	3	9	6	4
2	4	9	6	5	1	3	8	7



crossword By United Media

ACROSS

- 1 Insect stage
- 6 Fissures
- 11 Shark domains
- 13 Desperado
- 14 Sigh of relief
- 15 Moppet
- 16 Pickup truck part
- 17 — -cal
- 18 Tijuana aunt
- 20 Renowned
- 22 Andy Capp's wife
- 23 Gosh darn!
- 25 Route
- 26 Hair curler
- 27 Learn about
- 29 Wildflower habitat
- 31 Taro-root paste
- 33 Kind of humor
- 34 Well-versed
- 37 Decked out
- 40 Tempo
- 41 Wheel nut
- 43 Tennyson's title
- 45 Unusual
- 46 Beeped
- 48 Mekong native
- 49 A famous Derek
- 50 Howl at the moon
- 51 Pen point
- 53 Great Lakes st.
- 54 Cooks on a grill
- 56 Kind of knight
- 58 Opens wide
- 59 Roof beam

DOWN

- 1 Very reluctant
- 2 Soror
- 3 Do follower
- 4 Tub
- 5 Presently
- 6 Wept over
- 7 — be an honor!
- 8 Gulf st.
- 9 Candle ingredient
- 10 Faint
- 12 Stash the bags
- 13 Complied
- 19 Poker card
- 21 Wool cap
- 22 Back again
- 24 On the blink
- 26 Shipboard romance
- 28 Forest grazer
- 30 Portion of a circle
- 32 Fillings
- 34 Homburg cousin
- 35 Aberdeen kid
- 36 Pull hard
- 38 E-mail provider
- 39 Sink parts
- 40 London cop
- 42 Kind of pool
- 44 Blockheads
- 46 Friends
- 47 Soap target
- 50 Flour holder
- 52 Teeth-chattering sound
- 55 Cry of pain
- 57 Gold, in chem.

answers to last week's crossword

ARTS		HANS		YET
CARE		ELAN		APE
ENYA		REBA		WEE
	LAB		IDLES	
RESET		DOLE		
EYED		BAG		WAGE
ARC		ERE		CON
DESI		ETE		THAI
	LATH		YIELD	
JOWLS		EON		
OUI		PILE		SMOG
IST		IDOL		EAVE
NTH		CAPS		LOAM

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great day to be a bomber

First-time event celebrates Ithaca's student-athletes

BY MIKE TANNENBAUM
STAFF WRITER

With the sun shining and the temperatures finally feeling like spring, Ithaca College student athletes came together last Friday between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Upper Allen Field. But they weren't there to play.

They were there to enjoy the first ever Student Athlete Appreciation Day.

The event was sponsored by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee as an opportunity for athletes to relax from the rigors of training and come together as a group. The gathering was open to all varsity and JV athletes, coaches and athletic trainers.

"SAAC is always trying to find a way to bring the athletic community together in a noncompetitive environment," SAAC president and junior soccer player Jessica Finley said.

The smiles on the faces of the athletes suggested that Friday's event was an overwhelming success and could become an annual event. Attendance exceeded expectations, with between 300 and 400 people attending the festivities. In addition to the free pizza from Italian Carry Out, there were games that included inflatable bungee cord races and a jousting arena.

The athletes also came together to throw around a Frisbee and kick a soccer ball.

There was also the opportunity to try their luck at a raffle that included prizes such as gift certificates to Sammy's Pizza, Subway, Regal Theatre and Best Buy; a "SAAC Sack;" and a grand prize of an iPod Shuffle.

SAAC vice president and sophomore wrestler Jon Gregory said the main goal was to give back to the athletes for all their hard work.

"With all the sacrifices Ithaca student athletes are forced to make, we just thought that a time for fun and games would be rewarding," Gregory said. "Most teams never get to interact with each other because they are usually caught up in their respective season, so this was a great way for athletes to meet and interact with their peers."

SAAC board member and junior soccer player Sara Dowling echoed these sentiments.

"At a Division III school, our athletes don't

always get all the recognition they deserve for their hard work, so we wanted to provide an event that would do that," Dowling said.

Friday's event was not only intended as a social opportunity for student athletes, but also as a way to let the sport community become more familiar with the SAAC.

Ithaca College's SAAC was established in 1994 to serve as the representative body of the student athletes at Ithaca College. The NCAA states that "the SAAC is an important step in enhancing the involvement of the student athletes that affect their lives."

The membership of the committee includes an executive board and two representatives from each varsity team. One representative must be an underclassmen and the other must be an upperclassmen.

The executive board, comprised of the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and four committee chairs, is selected in December and serves a one-year term. SAAC members, plus other interested student-athletes, work on projects that focus on campus education, community involvement and special events.

Junior Chris Gray, a starting offensive lineman for the football team, said the event was an enjoyable way to spend a Friday afternoon.

"[It was] a great place to connect, meet people and refresh names and faces for the most part," Gray said.

Gray also said he would like to see the event take place more often, rather than just once at the end of each academic year.

Senior Kim Medla, a starting attack on the women's lacrosse team, said the event helped her reconnect with friends that play on other teams.

"I feel like when we are in season there isn't a lot of time outside of practice and games to hang out with other athletes that I would normally see in the off season," Medla said. "I enjoyed the food and being able to see some of my friends I haven't seen in a few weeks because of our schedules."

Gregory said, on the whole, the event was a huge success.

"What we accomplished in this event is the building of a stronger relationship among our student-athlete population," Gregory

Freshman Sam DeHority, a member of the men's crew, celebrates a victory in a jousting game during Student-Athlete Appreciation Day, sponsored by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

JIM LUDLOW/THE ITHACAN



Above: From left, sophomore Joel Trager and freshman Ryan Taylor compete in a bungee game. Below: Student-athletes, coaches and athletic trainers gather Friday on Upper Allen Field to celebrate Ithaca College athletics. Between 300 and 400 people attended the event.

JIM LUDLOW/THE ITHACAN



FOURTH
AND
SHORT**BEN STRAUSS**

Connect Four captures group

When Memphis choked away the NCAA tournament to Kansas earlier this month, most people were happy to say goodbye to their shredded brackets and March Madness.

Senior Rob Schroeder was not. Still clinging to a love of knock-out tournaments, he introduced his friends to April Anarchy — not in the form of a Memphis free throw brick-fest redux, but through a Connect Four Tournament.

And while Bill Self may have little interest in red and black checker pieces, Schroeder and 63 of his closest friends have taken to the tournament with a Gus Johnson level of excitement.

“We sent out brackets,” Schroeder said. “And people started filling them out.”

Starting last week with the opening-round game, the single elimination tournament has seen games played everywhere from Hudson Street to the Terrace 3 study lounge, some games drawing crowds as large as 15 people. There have been upsets and blowouts, marathons and five-move wins, four in a row by virtue of diagonals, horizontals and verticals.

Some players are competitive, showing up 15 minutes early to get in their warm up games, while others are in it just because they had a politics paper to put off.

The rules, however, are strict, as freshman Meg Malone found out. She asked if her game could be played outside in the sunshine. She was turned down and eight minutes later was out of the tournament.

“It was nicer outside anyway,” she said after the loss.

Schroeder hatched his Connect Four concoction on a Habitat for Humanity trip to New Orleans during spring break last month. With little going on after a full day of manual labor, he and his friends found themselves too tired for much of anything except a board game most of us stopped playing in middle school.

Since that week the game has made a comeback Hillary Clinton might like to duplicate.

“It’s such a simple game,” Schroeder said. “And yet there really is a lot more strategy than people give it credit for.”

The road to the Final Four ends tomorrow night as a Champion will be crowned, and Schroeder expects a crowd decked out in red or black.

If Terrace 3 on Monday night was any indication, players are in for an atmosphere that would have no trouble giving Bruce Pearl pit stains.

The tension was palpable. A soundtrack worthy of a Hollywood drama blared from speakers in the corner, while stadium seating surrounded the table.

Hands shook and hearts pounded under the glare of a roomful of eyes. The pressure was real.

That’s something Chris Douglas-Roberts can tell you all about.

BEN STRAUSS is a senior journalism major. Contact him at bstrauss1@ithaca.edu.

Senior team leader ‘never says die’

BY DAVE URAM
STAFF WRITER

It was the second game of a doubleheader against conference rival St. John Fisher College on April 5 at Kostrinsky Field. The softball team was locked in a close one with the Cardinals, leading the game 3–1, but senior pitcher Carly Myers was in a jam with runners in scoring position.

One of Fisher’s batters ripped a hard ground ball toward the left gap in the infield. It looked like the Cardinals were going to score at least one run to cut into the lead — until senior co-captain and shortstop Erica Cutspec dove and stretched for the ball, stopping it in its path.

No outs were recorded, but the play prevented runners from scoring.

Cutspec, who has been starting at the shortstop position for the past four years, may sport quick speed and a mean bat, but these do-whatever-has-to-be-done plays define the person and player she has grown into during her four years on South Hill.

“She leads by example, on and off the field,” senior co-captain and pitcher Nicole Cade said. “She has a great presence on the field.”

Cade, who said Cutspec is “all heart,” said she has been like this since day one of freshman year. This heart has not only turned her into a natural leader, but has also helped her rack up some outstanding numbers as well.

Cutspec, who said she did not hit well her freshman year, has swung the bat very well since her sophomore season.

“I was just trying to figure it all out,” Cutspec said.

Sophomore year she hit .372, with a .416 slugging percentage and a .449 on base percentage. As a junior, she hit .392, with a .523 slugging percentage and a .429 on base percentage.

This year, she has continued her pattern of improvement, carrying a .473 batting average, with a .645 slugging percentage and a .515 on base percentage into yesterday’s doubleheader against Cornell University.

Head Coach Deb Pallozzi said Cutspec is the motor that makes the Bombers run smoothly.

“She sets the tone for us,” Pallozzi said. “We go as Erica goes.”

Five years ago, Cutspec’s coach at Fort Plain High School in Fort Plain, N.Y., called Pallozzi and



Senior shortstop Erica Cutspec fields a ground ball during game one of Ithaca’s doubleheader against Cornell University yesterday at Kostrinsky Field. Cutspec’s 180 career hits rank her fourth all-time.

EVAN FALK/THE ITHACAN

asked her to come to a game. Pallozzi attended a game during the State Sectional Finals.

At the game, the first batter Pallozzi saw at the plate impressed her. Her initial fear was that this player wasn’t who the coach had asked her to come see play. As it turns out, the player was Cutspec.

To this day, both Pallozzi and Cutspec said they feel fortunate about the way time has passed during the past four years.

“I couldn’t have asked for more,” Cutspec said. “It’s an absolutely perfect fit.”

Cutspec said she is also grateful about the guidance and tutelage of Pallozzi.

“The program here was exactly what I have

been looking for [with] the way Coach Pallozzi runs it,” Cutspec said. “It’s been a great experience and has helped me not only to compete on the softball field, but also I know it will help me during life.”

Cutspec, Pallozzi and the rest of the Bombers remain focused on winning a national championship.

And though Pallozzi said it will take all 22 players working together to accomplish that feat, the leadership of Cutspec is a solid building block.

“[She’s] strong because nothing is impossible to her and competitive because she never says die,” Cade said. “She never gives up until the game’s won.”

South Hill squad continues dominance of Empire 8

BY CORY FRANCER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

There is something to be said for dominance, and it can be said that the baseball team has been dominant against the Empire 8. After winning three out of four games last weekend in Pittsford, N.Y., against St. John Fisher College, the Bombers were crowned Empire 8 champions for the eighth consecutive year.

Picked as unanimous favorites to win the conference in the pre-season coaches’ poll, the Blue and Gold never relented in their quest for conference supremacy.

Senior outfielder Rob Raux said the team’s consistent conference victories are a result of staying focused and having good coaching from Head Coach George Valesente.

“Coach works us pretty hard, and we put in a lot of effort,” Raux said. “We come in before practice and stay after. We take a lot of pride in it, knowing we’ve won our league and winning all the games that we can and should win.”

Senior Josh Smith also said Valesente’s determination was instrumental in the Blue and Gold’s conference championship.

“Coach knows how to get us in the winning attitude,” Smith said. “He’s all about perfection, so we strive for it and play hard.”

Out of the 16 conference games the South Hill squad has played



Junior pitcher Adam Brown unloads a pitch during the Bombers’ 8–7 win in 10 innings against the University of Rochester on Tuesday at Freeman Field.

JIM LUDLOW/THE ITHACAN

this season, 15 have resulted in wins. Most of these games were not close either. Ithaca’s average margin of victory over conference opponents is five runs, while the rest of the Empire 8 has averaged less than one and a half runs against the Blue and Gold.

Valesente said his talented group of senior leaders was instrumental in securing the conference title.

“We have strong senior leadership on this team,” Valesente said. “It’s really helped us through those times. These are all senior leaders that are making a great con-

tribution with the attitude of the ball club. It’s kept us on our toes and determined.”

Smith said the team’s hard-nosed attitude toward its games has led to the conference victory and a potential shot at Regionals.

“We’re playing good ball and hitting the ball hard,” Smith said. “We’re refusing to lose and have a little attitude on us.”

Smith said the weekend games against Fisher were good representations of the team’s determination and hard work they put in against their conference opponents.

“Fisher battled us and we had some good games against them,” Smith said. “We didn’t play our best, but we didn’t give up at the same time.”

Valesente said the team has won so many consecutive Empire 8 titles because one of the team’s objectives every year is to win the conference.

“Some of it is also because we’ve been lucky — getting the right hits at the right time and the big outs at the right time,” Valesente said.

Though the Bombers have the Empire 8 wrapped up and have completed their conference schedule, there are still regular season games until May 11, which will determine how the team will be placed in the playoffs. Valesente said his team’s drive will continue to push it throughout the season.

“We don’t seem to give up, so that’s a great thing,” Valesente said.

Senior showcase

Diverse class leads Bombers into Empire 8 tournament

BY ANDREW LOVELL
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior Kim Medla has scored a lot of goals for the women's lacrosse team in her career. One hundred and forty four in 58 games, to be exact.

But Medla has been on an impressive tear lately, even for her. The fourth-year attack has set her career high for goals scored in a game in consecutive contests. Medla scored a then career-best six goals in a 16-15 come-from-behind win against Hartwick College this past Friday, only to follow it up with a new

personal best of seven scores in the Bombers' 16-8 upset win against William Smith College Tuesday on Carp Wood Field.

So forgive the senior captain for having a little fun following her final home game as a Bomber on Tuesday.

"I just know [my career's] coming to an end, so I'm giving it 110 percent all the time," Medla said jokingly while flashing her infectious grin.

"No," she then said seriously, "I just know how far we can go. We can definitely make the NCAAs."

Nationals? For a 7-6 squad? Normally, that would seem completely out of the question. But for

Medla and the rest of the Blue and Gold, in particular the five other seniors, the goal remains simple: win two more games and secure the Empire 8's automatic NCAA playoff bid.

As the No. 4 seed in the four-team tournament this weekend, the Bombers certainly face an uphill battle, beginning with top-seeded Nazareth College at noon on Saturday.

The South Hill squad dropped a hard fought 12-9 decision to the Golden Flyers on April 6 in Rochester, but as Head Coach Karen Hollands points out, the game came less than 24 hours after an equally difficult tilt with St. John Fisher College. Nazareth, meanwhile, had faced Alfred University (2-10 overall) the previous day, and won easily.

And since those back-to-back losses in Rochester, the Bombers have won four of five contests, losing only to No. 5 Hamilton College. Senior goalie Emily Brooks said the team has come together down the stretch of the regular season.

"Since [the Nazareth game] we've grown even stronger," Brooks said. "We've played and beat William Smith, who's a very strong team. We played Hamilton [and] even though we lost, that was a great experience because they're a really strong team."

Brooks, who made a game-high 14 saves, including a handful of impressive one-on-one stops in the



From left, senior attack Kim Medla catches the ball as William Smith College freshman Keillan Lecky defends during the Bombers' 16-8 victory Tuesday on Carp Wood Field. Medla finished the game with a career-high seven goals.

MAX STEINMETZ/THE ITHACAN

win against William Smith, is just one of the Bombers' six standout seniors. Along with Brooks and Medla, attack Meagan Howell, midfielder Sarah Knauf and defenders Suzy Lull and Eryenne Printz have all helped lead the Blue and Gold to a third Empire 8 tournament berth in their four-year careers.

Medla, Howell and Knauf have combined to score 87 of the Bombers' 181, or about 48 percent. Lull, Printz and Brooks have anchored the defensive back line, which has steadily

improved throughout the season. The unit's success culminated in the limiting of the Herons to only eight goals, five below their season average.

Hollands said losing any group of seniors is tough but that this year's group will be particularly difficult for her to part with.

"They're like your kids by the time you get to four years," Hollands said. "To see them reach their potential and be such a huge part of our program and to really lead the way that they do [is great]

... I couldn't be prouder of them. They're all really different in their styles and they have their own way of getting it done."

If the Bombers are victorious in the opening round of the tournament, they will face the winner of St. John Fisher and the Stevens Institute of Technology. But, as Medla said, the team is moving one step at a time.

"[We just have to] keep on rolling," Medla said. "Just keep doing what we're doing."

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*This deadline pertains only to students studying on an exchange, affiliated or non-affiliated program, not to those studying at the Ithaca College London Center or an Ithaca College faculty-led summer program.

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Bombers aim for third national title in past five seasons

BY MIKE TANNENBAUM
STAFF WRITER

A second can make a difference between a win and a loss. This is a painful lesson the women's crew learned last year when its two varsity 8 boats competed at the NCAA Championship in Oakridge, Tenn., and failed to medal by .44 seconds.

This is a disappointment the Bombers said they are determined not to repeat.

"That close race has really pushed the team to training extra hard and performing at their optimal level this year," senior Steffanie McKay said. "We have started the season out strong, and we are definitely farther ahead than where we were last year at this [point]."

Head Coach Becky Robinson, who has led the Bombers to national championships in 2004 and 2005, said the team has been improving steadily.

"[They're working on] their smooth release to increase boat run and efficiency, catch to slide timing to get the entry of the blade in as quick and direct as possible and to make the boat move faster when they crew collectively and then keep the momentum through the race," Robinson said.

At the end of last season, the varsity team finished sixth at the NAAs and was ranked fifth overall. The varsity 8 team, at 7-2 overall, is ranked fifth nationally.

This past weekend, the team was in Massachusetts on Lake Quinsigamond racing against Connecticut College, Tufts University, the College of the Holy Cross and Colby College. Ithaca won the varsity 8, third varsity 8 and novice 8 races.

"We should be back at the NCAA Championship this year," Robinson said. "We are the only Division III team to attend every championship since 2002."

The bigger boats consist of eight rowers and

THIS WEEKEND

The Bombers compete at 8 a.m. Saturday in Williamstown, Mass., against Bates College, Coast Guard Academy, Marist College and Williams College.



From left, sophomores Kathryn Irwin and Stephanie Levesque and juniors Diana Glicini and Sarah Veninsky of the second varsity 8 boat row during Ithaca's regatta April 12 on Cayuga Lake. The Bombers are attempting to win their third national championship under Head Coach Becky Robinson. STEVE GORGOS/THE ITHACAN

a coxswain. When the weather permits, the team trains from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. six days a week on Cayuga Inlet, with five days devoted to practice and one day to racing. During the fall and spring, the team shares the lake with the Cornell University Crew, Cascadilla Boat Club, canoers and kayakers. When ice is on the lake, the team trains three to four days a week indoors at the boathouse.

In addition to rowing, training includes ergometers, running on land, using weights at the Hill Center and using tanks at Cornell, senior Sara Cleary said.

"We are hoping to get some space on campus for our ergometers and possibly a rowing center that has an indoor rowing tanks and training space," Robinson said.

This year, the Bombers received new boats.

"[They have a] variety of shells ranging

from eights to fours to doubles to singles," McKay said.

In the fall, the Bombers usually compete in two away races — one in Rochester, N.Y., and one in Philadelphia. If the team qualifies, it will then compete in the Head of the Charles race in Boston. In the spring there are more competitions, including three races on the Cayuga Inlet; one race in Worcester, Mass.; one in Pittsfield, Mass.; the New York State Championships in Whitney Point, N.Y.; and the ECAC National Invitational Regatta in Worcester, Mass., on May 3 and 4. The two top women's varsity 8s then compete at the NCAA race, which this year will be held in Sacramento, Calif.

Camaraderie and teamwork are hallmarks of this year's team.

"The team is a large group of dedicated girls working towards the same ultimate goal," Cleary

said. "We believe in each other and our strength and that is what makes the team what it is."

"Crew has been the most influential sport in my life," McKay said. "I never thought that something could change my life the way crew has. It is a sport where you can take what you learn from being on a close team to your every day activities."

McKay said the sport has the ability to take her mind off all other stresses in her life.

"Being on the water is the one time and place where you can forget everything else going on in life," McKay said. "As I tell my girls, once you step in the boat, leave everything else on the dock behind you."

This year, the Bombers have done just that, leaving everything behind — except the desire to bring home a third national championship in the past five years.

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Hitting the green

Department hosts golf tournament and annual awards ceremony

BY NATHANIEL WEIXEL
SENIOR WRITER

The Department of Sport Management and Media's annual golf tournament has grown five times larger in the four years that senior Jessica Toglia has been involved with it.

"The first year [I got involved] we had about 20 participants," Toglia said.

This year's tournament will have about 100 participants and will be played at Robert Trent Jones Golf Course at Cornell University instead of the public Hillendale Golf Course, as in years past.

Toglia said the change in venue required a change in the event's marketing strategy toward students, since the course was more expensive than in previous years.

"It was a different experience ... how do we get students to come? It's a more expensive, nicer course," Toglia said.

As an additional incentive to get students to participate, Toglia said the group added a \$10,000 prize for a hole-in-one on a designated Par 3 hole.

Toglia is the vice president of the Sport Event and Networking club. While other clubs hold multiple events throughout the year, Toglia said the singular goal of this club is to organize the golf tournament.

Sunday will mark the fifth year the tournament has taken place. The tournament is held in conjunction with the department's annual awards ceremony, which will be held Saturday. Together, both events have earned the moniker "Hole-In-One Weekend."

For the first time, all proceeds from the tournament will benefit a new sport management and media scholarship for experiential learning.

Wayne Blann, professor of sport

management and media and advisor to the Sport Event and Networking Club, said he hoped the event would raise between \$300 and \$500 for the scholarship this year and continue in the years to come.

"We foresee in the future that this event will be a fundraising effort in support of that scholarship fund," Blann said.

In the past, Blann said the club has identified a local charity and would donate a portion of the tournament's proceeds to it. Blann also said the scholarship would be helpful because sport management majors are required to have an internship, and most of them are unpaid.

"Students will be able to apply and, if they demonstrate a financial need, then we could provide them some financial support during this time when they're working," Blann said.

Though the internship is unpaid, students are still responsible for paying for the academic credits.

"It's kind of a double-whammy," Blann said.

Senior Greg DeLuca, president of the Sport Event and Networking Club, said this year's expected turnout could be the largest ever.

Toglia said about 110 people signed up to play in 2006, but because of inclement weather, only about 70 played the round of golf.

"It was 31 degrees and freezing rain," Toglia said. "Only about 50 people could finish."

DeLuca has also been involved in organizing the tournament since his freshman year. This is the first year the group decided to elect officers, and DeLuca said his role as president has been to micromanage the organization efforts.

"I sell sponsorships, put registra-



From left, Stephen Mosher, professor of sport management and media, hits a putt while former Ithaca golf coach Jim Johnston and Tom Jaronski '90 watch during the Hole-In-One weekend at the Hillendale Golf Course in 2006.
FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

tion together ... I've been doing it for four years," he said. "It's been a great experience."

DeLuca said moving the tournament to the Cornell course was an attempt to bring in more alumni and parent sponsors than in past years.

"Most of our sponsors were tee sign sponsors," DeLuca said. "Local businesses, parents buying signs, alumni who want to give back."

Tee signs weren't the only way for sponsors to donate. DeLuca said there would also be a silent auction, with sports memorabilia items donated by alumni. Some of the items being

auctioned include an Eli Manning autographed football and a basketball signed by the Boston Celtics.

Blann said having students gain professional work experience is one of the goals of the tournament.

"It allows students to get direct hands-on experiences in a couple of major growth areas to launch their careers or just get valuable experience in their resumes," he said.

DeLuca said working on the tournament was one of the most valuable experiences he's had while in college.

"It takes everything we learned and

rolled it into one," he said.

Toglia said organizing the event has gotten easier and said she has become familiar with the timetable of securing sponsors and sending out letters to students, parents, alumni and the community.

While she values the professional skills she's gained, Toglia said she also likes working on a smaller scale.

"We get to make mistakes [and] learn at a college level," Toglia said. "Event planning, crisis management ... I've learned a lot that I can carry into a professional career."

THE ITHACAN online | theithacan.org/sports

MORE SPORTS UPDATES
ONLINE

**Look online
for game stories
from these sports:**

TOMORROW

Men's lacrosse vs. St. John Fisher
College in Empire 8 Tournament

SATURDAY

Men's and women's crew @ Williams
College against Bates College,
Coast Guard and Marist College
Baseball vs. SUNY-Brockport
Men's tennis vs. St. John Fisher College
in Empire 8 Tournament
Women's lacrosse @ Nazareth College
in Empire 8 Tournament

SUNDAY

Men's and women's track and field
@ Big Red Invitational
Softball doubleheader
vs. Medaille College
Baseball @ SUNY-Oneonta

MONDAY

Men's and women's track and field
@ NYSCTC Decathlon
Baseball vs. SUNY-Oswego
@ Doubleday Stadium
Softball @ SUNY-Geneseo

TUESDAY

Baseball vs. St. Lawrence University
@ Doubleday Stadium

WEDNESDAY

Women's lacrosse @
University of Rochester

PLUS GET MORE

Photos from all home events

by the numbers

1
2

The number of championships the women's crew has won under Head Coach Becky Robinson. The Bombers won in 2004 and 2005. See story on page 33.

100

The number of participants who are signed up for the Department of Sport Management and Media's annual golf tournament. See story on page 34.



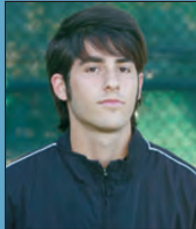
Swing for the fence

Sophomore Rob Crawford of the Dirty Dozen makes contact with the ball Saturday during the intramural softball tournament on Upper Allen Field. His team lost 6-0 to the C-Men & Women, who won the Co-Rec League finals Sunday. NICOLAS BARAJAS/THE ITHACAN

FACE OFF

Ithaca's athletes weigh in on life away from the court, field and track.

Freshman
Alex Stoler
Men's Tennis



Senior attack
Kim Medla
Women's Lacrosse



Senior midfielder
Craig Lepiane
Men's Lacrosse



Senior Distance
Caitlin Catella
Women's Track



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Golf

RED SOX OR YANKEES?

Yankees

WHO SHOULD BE THE MVP OF THE NBA?

Kobe Bryant

WHAT IS THE BEST BASEBALL MASCOT?

Mr. Met

Wendy's and Cheeseburger World

Fishing

Yankees

Michael Jordan

Phillie Phanatic

Wendy's

Skiing

Yankees

LeBron James

I have no idea

Starbucks

Running

Red Sox

Paul Pierce

Phillie Phanatic

they said it

I'm a Colts player, I'm a Colts player.

Indianapolis Colts running back **Kenton Keith, 27**, as he was getting arrested for refusing to leave a nightclub parking lot after the club had closed. Keith was charged with misdemeanor counts of disorderly conduct, resisting law enforcement, public intoxication and contributing to the delinquency of a minor, because a man he brought to the club with him was 19.



the foul line

Weird news from the wide world of sports

When high school baseball teams are putting up as many points as a basketball team, it may cause concern for players and coaches. When a Japanese high school team scored 66 runs in two innings last week, the coaches decided they had seen enough. The starting pitcher for Kawamoto Technical High School threw 250 pitches giving up 26 runs in the first inning and 40 runs in the second before his head coach decided to call the game off. "At that pace the pitcher would have thrown around 500 pitches in four innings," Kawamoto's coach said. "There was a danger he could get injured." Kawamoto's opponent, Shunshukan High School, was officially credited with a 9-0 victory in order to give Kawamoto some shred of respectability. Judging from this performance, it doesn't seem as if Kawamoto's starter will be the next Daisuke Matsuzaka but is more likely to go the way of ill-fated Japanese pitcher Hideki Irabu.

— Cory Francer





Freshman Mary Wilusz, clad in festive beads, spreads frosting on a cupcake at IC After Dark's Big Easy event. The event featured a make-your-own-king-cake event, based on the Carnival tradition celebrated in New Orleans' Mardi Gras celebrations. The tradition of cake with a trinket inside is said to bring good luck to the person who receives it.

cajun ragin'

Students kicked back Big Easy style for a night of food, fortunes and fun at IC After Dark's final event of the year

PHOTOS BY BRIAN STERN
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Above: From left, senior Ryan Jacobi takes advice on his future from junior Alyssa Arminio and sophomore Abby Brewer. Other attractions at the event included musicians and a "Café Du Monde." Above right: Senior Craig Rosenberg fills a bowl with chicken gumbo, a traditional cajun soup. Right: From left, Natasja Lavin, Shriya Palekar and Katya Shulga of Cornell's Vinuri Oriental Dance Troupe belly dance. The troupe performs dances from Egypt, Turkey and Greece, among other places.

